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# THE HINDU ON SUNDAY

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SNAKEBITE CAPITAL

## What India must get right

Country's ongoing efforts to plug the data gap in snakebite fatalities and improve handling of the long-neglected issue

MAGAZINE» PAGE 1

Rafael Grossi, the nuclear policeman

PROFILES » PAGE 15

Lessons from the Telangana blast

FAQ » PAGE 14

Gill shatters more records at Edgbaston

SPORT » PAGE 17

## NEARBY

### No link between COVID and heart disease: Study

BENGALURU
A pilot observational study by the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research (SJICSR) has found no association between premature cardiovascular disease and a prior history of COVID-19 infection or COVID vaccination. » Page 7

### Will get PM's nod for Mekedatu in a jiffy, says HDK

MYSURU/BENGALURU
Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy has said the Congress government lacked the strength to convince Tamil Nadu on the Mekedatu project and that he could "get the Prime Minister's approval for the project within five minutes". » Page 6

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MAGAZINE » 8 PAGES

# Nehal Modi, co-accused in PNB case, held in U.S.

He is accused of aiding his brother and economic offender Nirav Modi in laundering money and destroying evidence; the arrest was based on extradition request from the ED and the CBI

Devesh K Pandey
NEW DELHI

Nehal Modi, co-accused in the ₹13,578-crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam case and brother of its 'mastermind' Nirav Modi, has been arrested in the U.S. based on an extradition request from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

"The United States Department of Justice has informed Indian authorities that Nehal Modi, brother of fugitive economic offender Nirav Modi, was arrested by the U.S. authorities on July 4. The arrest has been made pursuant to an extradition request jointly submitted by the ED and the CBI," an official said.

According to the complaint filed by the U.S. prosecution, the extradition proceedings are being pursued on two counts – alleged money laundering under Section 3 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act and alleged criminal conspiracy under Sections 120-B and 201 of the Indian Penal Code. "Nehal Modi is wanted in India in connection with the multibillion dollar PNB fraud case, one of the largest banking scams in the country's history. Investigations by the ED and CBI have revealed that Nehal Modi played a key role in laundering proceeds of crime on behalf of Nirav Modi, who is also facing extradition from the U.K.," the official said.

### Serious charges

- **Nehal Modi** allegedly took away diamonds worth **$6 million** from Hong Kong & 50 kg of gold from Dubai
- He is also accused of **intimidating witnesses,** keeping them **in confinement,** and forcing them to **sign forged papers**

**Sept 2019:** Interpol issues a **Red Notice** against him

**May 2020:** His profile on **Interpol website** disappears briefly. It was restored and again taken down later

**March 2021:** Following a series of queries on various issues, **India seeks his extradition** from the U.S.

**Wanted figure:** Image of Nehal Modi that had appeared on Interpol website with a Red Notice in 2020. FILE PHOTO

### Shell companies

Mr. Nehal Modi is alleged to have assisted in concealing and transferring large sums of illicit funds through a web of shell companies and overseas transactions.

The next hearing in the extradition proceedings is scheduled for July 17, when a status conference will be held. The accused may apply for bail during the hearing, which the U.S. prosecution has stated it will oppose.

Mr. Nirav Modi is currently lodged in a U.K. jail.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

# India, Trinidad and Tobago ink deals on pharma, finance

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

Trinidad and Tobago signed at least six agreements with India that will pave the way for India's financial and pharma sectors to emerge as major players in the Caribbean region.

As part of understandings reached during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-day visit, Trinidad and Tobago also has announced that it will join India's global initiatives in Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA).

The two sides also signed an agreement on Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in Trinidad and Tobago.

"Through this MoU, the Government of India will provide grant funding for the implementation of short gestation QIPs which will not exceed $50,000 for each project. A maximum of five projects will be offered in each financial year," a joint statement said, explaining the Quick Impact Projects.

Mr. Modi also declared that India will gift 2,000 laptops to school students in Trinidad and Tobago as a gesture to support its Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar's "ambitious vision of digitising education".

Mr. Modi also gifted the first batch of $1 million in agro-machinery to Trinidad and Tobago's National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation (NAMDEVCO) and declared support for millet cultivation, seaweed fertilizer and natural farming.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

# BJP leader shot dead in Patna

Amit Bhelari
PATNA

Prominent businessman and Bihar BJP leader Gopal Khemka was shot dead at point-blank range by unidentified motorbike-borne criminals outside his home in Patna late on Friday night.

Though the shooting took place just 300 metres from a police station, the police reached the spot nearly 90 minutes later. The police are scanning CCTV footage of the murder, which took place at 11.30 p.m. near Ramgulam Chowk in the Gandhi Maidan police station area. One person was detained on Saturday and is being questioned by the police. Khemka was returning home from the Bankipore Club when the shooting took place. He was rushed to a private hospital where he was declared dead.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 9

Social Welfare Department

Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Shri D.K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister

39th Death Anniversary of
Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

Architect of the Green Revolution,
National Leader and former Deputy Prime Minister of India.

Garlanding the Statue of Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram by
Shri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister and
Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare.
July 6th, 2025, Sunday at 10.30 AM. West Gate, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.

"Truth is One, ways are Many"
- Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram

Dr. H.C. Mahadevappa, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare in a progress review meeting.

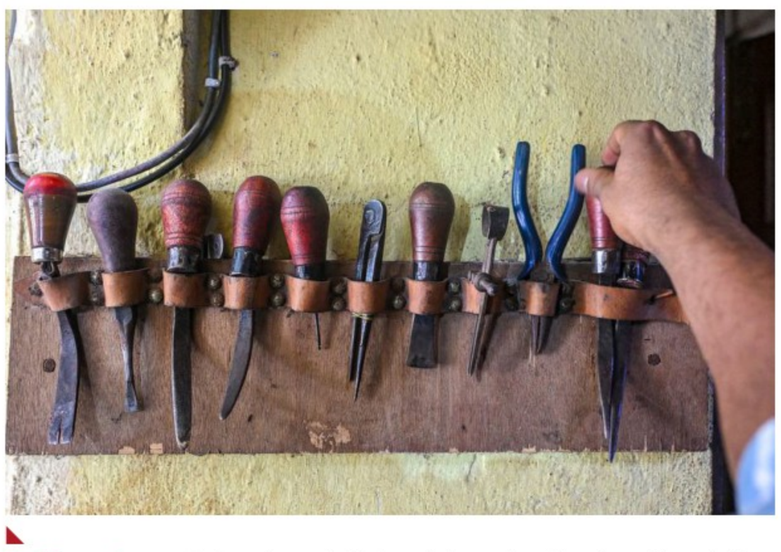
As is enshrined in our constitution, "to value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture" - is the fundamental duty of every citizen of the country.

Commissioner
Social Welfare Department

@SWDGok

**First step:** Pieces of vegetable-tanned leather is laid out to dry under the sun on a terrace in Kolhapur.

**Bootstrapping tradition:** Leather 'ears' used to attach the T-strap are left to dry at a workshop.



**Crafting each step:** Tools used to make Kolhapuri chappals are kept in precise order for the convenience of artisans.

**Hands at work:** Artisans set out leather pieces of various sizes to make the chappals.

# Kolhapuri chappals walk on chic runways

Rooted in centuries-old craftsmanship, these eco-friendly, handmade sandals stand as a proud symbol of India's artisanal heritage and sustainable fashion

**Emmanual Yogini**
emmanual.jackkie
@thehindu.co.in

Recently, Kolhapuri chappals made global headlines when Italian luxury brand Prada released a pair of sandals that closely resembled the traditional Kolhapuri design – but priced them at several hundred dollars. This sparked a controversy, with many labelling it cultural appropriation and criticising the brand for the lack of acknowledgement of the artisans or the original craft. While Prada did not directly claim inspiration from Kolhapuris, the visual similarity was enough to reignite discussions around intellectual property rights, artisan recognition, and the importance of preserving traditional crafts.

Kolhapuri chappals are a symbol of India's rich artisanal heritage, with a history dating back over 800 years. Originating from the town of Kolhapur in Maharashtra, these handcrafted leather sandals have been traditionally worn by Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj. Users admire the footwear for its durability, comfort, and distinct aesthetic.

What makes the footwear truly unique is the intricate craftsmanship that is behind each pair. These chappals are made entirely by hand – from cutting the leather to shaping the sole and weaving the iconic T-strap. Every stitch, punch, and braid is done manually by skilled artisans, many of whom work out of small family-run homes rather than large-scale factories. This decentralised, home-based production model has been passed down generations, keeping the cottage industry alive in small towns and villages across Maharashtra and Karnataka.

Another less-known but important aspect of Kolhapuri chappals is their eco-friendly production. The leather used undergoes vegetable tanning, a traditional method that uses natural tannins derived from tree bark, leaves, and other plant sources. The process, though longer and more labour-intensive, adds to the unique character of every chappal – no two pieces of leather are ever quite the same.

Ironically, the Prada controversy served as a silver lining – it brought renewed attention to Kolhapuri chappals on the global stage. Several Indian designers and advocates used the moment to highlight the centuries-old craft, emphasising the need to support local artisans.

In an era of fast fashion, Kolhapuri chappals stand as a proud symbol of slow, sustainable craftsmanship – made with care, by hand, and with history in every step.

**Shaping the sole:** Absorbed in his work, a craftsman cuts the right shape for a chappal.

# Classifieds

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LIFE MADE SIMPLE

THE HINDU

# Matrimonial

BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

## BRIDEGROOMS WANTED

### COSMOPOLITAN

**ARCHITECT, 34/**155, Own Design Practice in Chennai. Smart, Dynamic from an affluent family seeks a professionally qualified and well–educated groom from similar background. Groom should be self–reliant with a distinguished career or from business background preferably based in Chennai. Contact : 7845860950.

**COMPATIBLE HINDU** boy sought for Pillai BE, MS (USA), 30 years, drawing AED 25,000 monthly in Dubai. Call: +971507744192

**25YRS FAIR** attractive Fashion Designer reputed MNC 12L/ pa seeks well educated professionally settled groom below 30 preferably Hindu/ Christian from Malayali/ Tamil family with cosmopolitan outlook based in Chennai. Brokers & Matrimony sites excuse. Whatsapp only: 9176520833

**US EMPLOYED** Groom wanted for 26year girl, MS,Employed in US, Contact inter religious professional parents, Tamilnadu. Whatsapp:9962400898

**CASTE NO** Bar. Father Hindu Naidu Mother SC, 27 B.E. MBA employed IT 35K seeks suitable groom. 8056033255

### DIVORCEE

**WARM, ATTRACTIVE** 37, 159cm, UK–educated (MSc), Dubai–based professional. Progressive, Army family. Seeks mature, compatible partner. Language/caste no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

### DOCTOR

**FOR 28/**165, Fair, Sunni Muslim Urdu MD Doctor Girl Working in TN Govt PHC Chennai Seeking MD/MS Doctor/Surgeon/ IFS / IAS Officer from Tamilnadu Send Profile to doctorali1889@gmail.com

**CHRISTIAN** –27 Fair Female, Dr. MBBS, Optician. Gods Fear Groom Dr. Chennai ,Blr Or Any Dist. 7358 638363

**ALLIANCE INVITED from Doctor with PG or any other suitable groom from Mudaliar/Vellallar for our daughter born in Dec 1993 MS General Surgery working in a private hospital Contact 9840104379**

**DKV Govt.** Dr. 29, Aswini, Mesham Father, Mother Govt. Dr. Seeks Doctor Groom Only. Ph: 9443151045.

**HINDU TAMIL** FC Poosam Kadagam Smart Dr Girl MS ENT 28/163 Chennai seek PG Doctor only Whatsapp 9841679255

**DOCTOR, HINDU,** 40, issueless divorcee, seeks compatible groom. Ct. 9176289180.

**REDDY 34/165CM MBBS, MS Seeks Suitable Groom from Chennai / Dubai / Singapore CNB 8925640111**

### ENGINEER

**NAMBIAR PARENTS** invites proposal for daughter 34, MBA BCA from reputed University. Working as manager in software industry Bengaluru. Call 8921579131.

### FINANCE / BANKING

**SC, AD,** Bank Employee, Age : 31, Triupathi. Wanted Bank Employee or Government Employee : 90001 80420

### HINDI

**BRAHMIN GIRL** 1996/ 172cm, BA-LLB, Company Secretary, Working in Mumbai, Known Business Family of Nagpur, MH. All Bramhins Accepted, Preference to Metro Cities. Contact: 9371490165

### IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

**THEVAR, 31yrs/164cm,** Fair, Civil Servant (UPSC -IRMS (A) / Southern Railway), Native:Tirunelveli, Mother: DRO, Revenue Dept. seeks Groom well educated family from Medical / Civil Servant / Successful entrepreneurs. Caste no bar from equal community. Ct: 9487835626

THE HINDU
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### IAS / ALLIED SERVICES

**Cosmopolitan Beautiful** Very rich only daughter 27, Boy should be below 33 from Elite Service like IAS IPS IFS of TN KARNATAKA AP Kerala Cadre or IRS or TN Class I Revenue police officer Judicial Magistrate or Rich Business Family-First Marriage Divorcee widower without child. Send full details to email drpvj5999@gmail.com Phone: 8081104364. Strictly no Brokers.

### MALAYALAM

**KERALITE ROMAN** Catholic 29 /162 cm, M. Tech, professionally settled in Europe with parents. Inviting proposals from professionally qualified boys with good family values, preferably with German proficiency and European residency or willingness to relocate. Kindly share bio–data and recent photographs to: infomatrimonial2025@gmail.com

**WELL PLACED** Malayali Muslim girl, 28, IIML seeks preferably IIM/ IITians. sitharaa006@gmail.com, 8075494153.

**VELLALA GIRL,** 33, Makam, 155, MCA, working as a Software Engineer at IBM, located in Infopark, Ernakulam. Direct alliance preferred. Contact: 9048569041

**VISWAKARMA GOLDSMITH** girl, 35/155, Visakham Suddham, M.Phil, seeks alliance from parents of professionals. 9188198390.

**KERALA NAIR** Doctor Bride 31 Yrs / 163 Cm doing super speciality in Delhi seeks Doctor / Professional groom. Mob:8089584220 / 9249920550

### WANTED GROOM

Proposal from suitable well educated with good job profile are invited for Latin Catholic girl, 30 years/ 156 Cm, Alappuzha, MBBS Doctor

Contact:
9645990652 & 9539399900

### Wanted Bridegroom

Nair Girl 26/166 BTech MBA IIM working in MNC Bank Chennai Star Aayilyam slight dosham (not Chowa). Affluent family from Palakkad/Thrissur settled in Kochi. Seeking alliance from professionally qualified well employed tall boys below 30 with clean habits and good character preferably working in Chennai. Share details with profile horoscope photo.

Mob/ Whatspp no:
6238768029

### GROOM WANTED

Keralite Nair Doctor MBBS, MS serving in Indian Airforce, born in June 1993,160 cm is looking for alliances from forward communities especially doctors, engineers, officers, scientists and professors, ideally those in defence, central government and civil services.

CONTACT : 9497855381

### NRI

**ROUABHIA FAMILY ( Algerian origin, presently based in USA ) invites alliance for their daughter– 26 yrs, divorced (no children), U.S. Green Card holder, Management graduate, fluent in Arabic, English & French. Experienced in hospitality & healthcare sectors across Algeria, Turkey and USA. Seeking a well–educated, professionally settled Muslim groom from a respectable family, preferably willing to relocate or already based in the USA.Contact: drouabhiamani@gmail.com**

### PUNJABI

**SM4 29/**170CM, NIT Gold Medalist, EdTech Prof., BLR. Bful, slim, simple. Fam. settled Surat/NCR. Seeks Edu., Tall Punjabi match. Call 9374738545

### TAMIL

**CSI NADAR** BE 25/162 cm fair VVIP family Chennai seeks equal status boy doing business. Phone: 7550113468

**CHRISTIAN, RC,** Age 30, BE, Private, 50lakhs. Ct 8138901171

### TAMIL

**RC, ASST** Prof. PhD, in Univ. of Madras, Chennai 46/150 cm, brown complexion, upper middle class, divorcee seeks suitable groom. Caste No Bar. Ph: 91766 51411

**CHRISTIAN GROOM** wanted for a Tamil family bride. The groom's age must be between 27 and 29. Willing to settle overseas. Send full details with photo of the groom. Contact: +65–88142881.Strictly no brokers.

**CHRISTIAN, RC,** Age 30, BE, EEE, Private, 1cr, Ct: 7356483111

**CHRISTIAN, CATHOLIC,** Age 30, MS, MNC, 30 Lakhs. Ct 8138900557

**LOOKING FOR** Christian Bridegroom for the girl working in USA aged 26. End time message. 8939250457

**CHRISTIAN GIRL 35 years engineer working in MNC as an executive well settled at chennai wanted working engineer bridegroom not married below 40 years from a decent christian family–cont 9445931257**

**TAMIL/ ENGLISH,** Catholic, highly qualified, well placed family from Bangalore, seeking a suitable, handsome, affluent Groom, preferably Doctor, Engineer or Professional for their fair, beautiful Doctor girl, 30, 150 cm. Contact -9945530186.

**SEEKING NEVER** Married Tamil/ Telugu Bridegroom age 42–45 for a Software Engineer Girl, 42. Ct:9962956416

**✔ TAMIL MUSLIM girl 38 yrs, Engineer, seeks for Tamil Muslim employed, never married Groom. 9444235779**

**BORN AGAIN** Christian, 44yrs/152, MBBS, MD doctor, seeks christian groom, Chennai. CT – 9500188067

**CSI TAMIL** M.Sc., M.Phil., 35/149, Asst.Prof. Pvt. Seeks Groom, FC/BC, below 39 yrs. Ct: 98946-77892.

**SEEKING FOR** a 28 year Old Mudaliar Bride working as Assistant Professor in Chennai. CNB. Ct: 9790791872.

**HINDU, MUDHALIYAR,** Age 30, MBA, Private, 6lakhs. Ct 8138900652

**CHENNAI–BASED** HINDU Divorcee Bride, 35 yrs, 5'4", Graduate, Working (Rs.10 LPA), Caste No Bar, Seeks Divorced/Widowed Groom (Kids Ok). Contact: 8220765305

**HINDU, NO** caste bar, Age 25, Government, 30lakhs. Ct 8137003548

**CASTE NO** bar, Hindu or Christian, Age 41,165cm, Good looking completed M.A. Chennai, Watsup 8667761527

**SAIVA VELLALAR** 28/160 MBBS Govt Job working in Chennai seeks Doctor, Govt employed (or) any equivalent profession. 9487326812, 9380955408

**SC (AD),** 30yrs, MBBS, Well Educated background in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom. Contact: 6385293227

**Velala Mudaliar** Thiruvonam/ MTech, MSc (Digital Mktg), MNC, 27/ 5.6/ Fair & cultured well to do family. – Arcot/Vellore . Seeks Elite Bridegroom Contact :– vsvgpal@rediffmail.com / jaydky1970@gmail.com

**SC (RC),** 27yrs, BE, MBA (UK), Working in UK, Well Educated background, Seeks Suitable Groom Ct:9962791888

**Hindu Arunthathiar** (Tamil) 25/158 Rohini, Rishabam M.A., PhD, Assistant Professor, Govt. Job in Tamil Nadu, upper middle class family, Looking for suitable Groom.Contact: 75300-44962.

**MBA IIM,** B.Tech Naidu 163/ Nov 89, Product Manager, Bangalore 30L/pa seeks well settled grooms earning 30L & above. Working Bangalore/ Hyderabad/ Abroad. CNB. Ct: 9962259162

**HINDU AD** MD Psychiatry 39/165 divorcee Punarpoosam/ Mithunam seeks groom from same community less than 44. Engineer/ Doctors Ct: 9043700183

**HINDU GIRL** 28 Fair Pleasing BE (Mech) MS (NUS) 4 years MNC Experience Abroad Seeks Professional Groom Ct : 9363631558.

**KALLAR,24,**GIRL , BE,working in MNC ,looking for groom. Brokers excuse. Contact whats App 9843055079

**HINDU, NADAR,** Age 27, MD, Doctor, 6Lakhs Ct: 8138901281

**HINDU, SC,** Age 28, MBA, Private, 50Lakhs, Ct: 9072777822

**HINDU, GOUNDER,** Divorced, Age 30, Business, 1 cr, Ct: 8138900498

**RICH MUDALIYAR** 26yrs BE MBA well Educated Family background in Chennai,Seeks Suitable Groom Ct:6385293227

### TAMIL

**WARM, BEAUTIFUL,** 26, 160cm, polished, UK–raised professional. Affluent Nadar family of doctors. Seeks compatible groom. Call/WA 9345634365

**HINDU NADAR,** Age:28, B.E.MBA., Salary: 1Lac/per month,Kanni Raasi, Hasthama. Chennai. Ct: 9841274275

**HINDU, DEVANDRAKULA** Vellalar, Age 30, Bsc IT, Government, 15 Lakhs Ct 8138900652

**HINDU, SC,** Age 30, BSc Nursing, Private, 15 Lakhs. Ct 8137003549

**CASTE NO** Bar, 30yrs, BE, MS (UK), Very Affluent family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom. Cont: 6385293227

**NADAR (GRAMINI),** 21yrs, MBBS, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9380791999/ 9841329471

**CHRISTIAN 38yrs** unmarried Doctor well settled family seeks suitable unmarried Groom.Ct:+919360235292

**MUDALIAR (CNB)** 25/ Fair & Good Looking, B.Tech, M.Sc (International Business) doing in Paris, Well settled family, seeks abroad groom. Ct: 8850176287, 8939012419

## BRIDES WANTED

### COMPUTER / INFO.TECH

**IT SENIOR** Director, Chennai MNC, Hindu, SC, AD, 39, BE,Veg, Unmarried.Tamil origin, Fluent in Hindi & English.Seeking Hindu, Unmarried,Veg only Bride.Caste No Bar. Mob:7871691025

**48 Years** /172, Arya Vysya, seeks affluent Bride, Caste No Bar. Contact: 9150080187

### COSMOPOLITAN

**HANDSOME, SUCCESSFUL** 36, 188cm, well–spoken, from cultured S. Indian family. Seeking well–educated, compatible bride. Call or WA 9345634365.

**CASTE NO** bar. Affluent well known family. Boy, MBA(SPAIN), june, 1995. 187cm. Handsome. Girl should be fair and beautiful. Good upper middle class ok. 9840970170

### DIVORCEE

**HINDU 37** MBA No encumbrances Bank employee own house seeks bride. Caste no bar. Ct:9789001684/ 9884355456

### DOCTOR

**MUDALIYAR DOCTOR** Couple–Sree Sathya Narayana Hospital, B. Komarapalayam seek Doctor Bride, Well Educated and Compassionate, for their Son–MRCP, 30 yrs, 176 cms, Contact:.+919944955957.

**BRIDES WANTED**
**SOUTH INDIAN Vegetarian MBBS Doctor serving in IAF, Oct 1997 born 169 cms Mougalya Gothram, Rohini Star, Rishaba Rasi. Seeks Vegetarian Medical Professional Girl preferably a Doctor**
**Contact - WHATSAPP**
**94420 63443 / 90039 42248**

### ENGLISH

**Wanting a** Good Looking, Well Settled God Fearing RCM Bride age between 29-35 yrs, Minimum Qualification Must. Contact:9963548243, 7995731726

### HINDI

**1985/175CM,** 50 Lakhs PA, Never Married, Bangalore. WhatsApp: 96290 12248

### MALAYALAM

**33 /** 183 Nair groom anizham currently working in Bangalore IT sector well respected and educated family seeks suitable bride from Nair / Menon /Nambiar Ct : 94435 59882.

**NAIR BOY,** 34/168cm, Chithira, B.E, Software Engineer MNC Chennai seeks alliance from well educated employed Nair Girls. No Brokers. 9698176671

**NAIR YOUTH** 47/182 issueless divorce M.Tech MBA working MNC Kochi Petroleum company financially sound liability will also be considered. 9633001187

**BRIDE WANTED**
**Nair Boy 36/178 Revati, BE, settled in Chennai seeks educated, employed bride from similar background.**
**Ct: 9840020841**

### TAMIL

**CHRISTIAN, BORN** again, Age 25, Private, 30Lakhs. Ct 8138900537

**CHRISTIAN, RC,** Age 33, Private, 15lakhs. Ct 8138900523

**CHRISTIAN, BORN** Again, age 29, MSc IT, MNC, 1cr, Ct 8138901337

**CHRISTIAN, RC,** Age, 52, M.Com, Private, 40Lakhs, Ct: 8138900487

**54 YRS** Christian Issueless Divorcee, clean habits, employed Chennai, seeks Educated employed bride from cultured family. Email: perfectsoulmate2025@gmail.com

**RC CHRISTIAN,** 42yrs/170, B.E. Software Engineer, never married, works for mnc, Chennai. CT– 9500188067

**CHRISTIAN RC** 1973 born 165cm MBA Sr. Manager 1.1 L/Pm Govt PSU divorce seeks suitable bride Ct. 8148842983

**LECTURER 27.06.92,** 182cm MA Phd Mesham Bharani Well Settled in Chennai. Seek Christian Tall, Fair Girl. CNB. Cont: 9789847577

**TAMIL HINDU,** 55, M.A., 40,000 PM, seeks suitable Bride 35 - 40 years, Caste no bar. Contact: 81109 68581

**SENGUNTHA MUDHALIAR,** 37/182, Thiruvathirai, Mithunam, working at Northrop, USA seeks USA working/ settled Bride. Caste No Bar. Ct: 99441 64185 (Tamil), 94434 37248(English)

**TIRUNELVELI SAIVA** Pillai 31 years / 180 cms, Anusham, DOB 04.03.1994 BE, MS working in USA Seeking Bride from same / related Community B.E, B.Tech / MS in IT preferred. Contact: 9442162509 / 8870695851

**TAMIL YADAV** / Others Good looking well natured Girl for a Young Entrepreneur in well settled Family. Contact: 99400 17375/ 90807 20162

**MUDHALIYAR, CA,** Age–40, Never married, Star: Kettai, Own House, 6 Acre land. Sub Caste ok. 9677622641

**MUDHALIYAR, B.E,** IT, Sal:1L Age–36, Star:Pooradam, Never married Well settled. Sub caste ok. 7305460763

**VISWAKARMA EQV/** Elite, Indust, 26/ 175 /EEE /Pooradam, Preferably Chennai Living, 9360571051, 6369766781

**HINDU, BRAHMIN,** Age 40, MBA, Business, 30lakhs. Ct 8138900557

**HINDU, NAIDU,** Age 32, MNC, 10 Lakhs. Ct 8138900312

**HINDU NADAR,** 25yrs, BE, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Bride Ct: 9380791999/ 9841329471

**AUDITOR/ 46** Chennai/ Seeks Any Vegetarian Hindu Girl. Contact : 9884398109

**AGAMUDAIYAR, UTHIRAM/KANNI** 35/180, BE, HRM, Job at Canada, Canadian Citizen, Seeks BE,Nursing, any degree bride.CNB. Ct:9442993042

**AGAMUDAIYAR UTHIRADAM** 34/180 B.Tech, TCS, Hyderabad, 2Lpm, seeks Equally Qualified bride, Caste No Bar. Contact: 8220984182

**BC BRIDE** For Groom 34 Years BE MBA Central Govt Chennai 95K PM 9444925350, 9884172821 W

**30YEARS, 172C.M,** B.Tech IIT–M, MBA IIM–K 70Lacs p/a, working in Delhi Mudaliyar, Chennai CNB. 9884642428

**HINDU MARAVAR,** 43yrs/ 172 cms, Officer, Nationalised Bank lives in Chennai (Divorcee) seeks professionally qualified, good looking Bride from a respectable family. Caste No bar. Parents- Retired Govt. Gazetted officials.Ct:94424 63668/ 70101 74874

**HINDU NADAR,** 26yrs, MBBS, MS, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 9380791999/ 9841329471

### TAMIL

**MUDALIAR 40/** 173/ Dip EEE/ Settled Bangalore /IT/ 70Kpm/ seeks working or NonWorking Bride 9884024469

**NADAR, 37** years, Barani, Mesham, M.E., Ph.D, Proffessor, Pvt. University, Chennai, 1 Lakh/pm, Divorcee, without issue seeks suitable Bride. Religion No Bar. Ct: 9443269548, 7598362802

**TAMIL MUDALIAR,** BE MBA, 35y, 175cm, MNC Consultant, Coimbatore. 15 LPA. Seeks Educated Bride. 9944074364.

**HINDU NADAR** Age 37, Editior Pvt Channel Chennai, Own Hosue, Seeks Bride. Call: 9894220700 / 8190900067

**Tamil Viswakarma** BE 18LPA 32/165 cm working in Bangalore Pooratathi, Kumbam seeks suitable bride. Ph: 99404 20406

**SM4 HINDU,** 56/155cm, Sengunthar, widower, engineer, financially secure, non–vegetarian, non–smoker, seeks homely woman, 40–50, for remarriage. Contact 9514551155 or Ravibalasubra@gmail.com with biodata and photo

**HINDU 34YRS/**170CM/BE/25LAKHS PA/Sc/ Ayillam. Settled in Bangalore. Family is financially well off and educated. Seeks suitable Bride from same/other caste. Ct:9845401461.

**HINDU NADAR,** First marriage B. tech, M.S. 42/171 working Canada seeks Bride. Caste no bar. 8148166505.

**LOOKING FOR** RC Nadar Bride for Groom, Ph.D (Chemistry) 29 Years / 167 cm, currently working as Research Associate in a Hong Kong University. Mob: 9444045013

**HINDU, REDDIAR,** Widower, Age 45, MPhil, Government, 7 lakhs. Ct 8138901171

**MUDHALIYAR 51/** 170 Doctor Surgeon, Caste No Bar. Only First Marriage. Ct : 9842366613.

**HINDU, GOUNDER,** Age 33, CA, Private, 15 Lakhs. Ct 8138900312

**HINDU ARNADU** Vellalar 40 BE (unmarried) working in abroad. Salary 25 lks per annum. Seeks bride from same or allied caste seeking unmarried / legally divorced / no issues. Contact: 9944569401.

**HINDU, VANNIYAR,** Age 29, MBA, Private, 4 Lakhs. Ct 8138900575

**HINDU, GOUNDER,** Age 30, MBBS, Doctor, 5 Lakhs. Ct 8138900913

**CHETTIYAR KADANTHA** Maharishi, Rohini 30/172 BE Mech.working in MNC Chennai 14 Lacs PA, Ct: 9789094450

**BRIDE WANTED** Hindu Nadar,39yrs,B.com, MBA, Divorce, Auditor, Elite business family 9841329471/ 9380791999

**SC AD** 29/B.Tech.,MBA.,Asst. Manager (Wipro) Rs.1,50,000/– pm Seeks Bride. Ph:9444993417 / 7397674481

**SEEKING ALLIANCE** for our Son 38/ 175cms, Good Looking, Doing own business (Trichy & Coimbatore) from an affluent family. Caste no bar. Prefers pet lovers. Contact: 9884446647

**SCA, CASTE** NO BAR, Age–38, M.Phil, Govt, 12 Lakhs, Seeks PVT/Govt. well educated bride. Ct:8608377851

**VANNIAKULAKSHTRIA GROOM** Age 43yrs / 182cm (Divorcee short lived, no issues) BE, MBA(UK) Working IT company Chennai 15 la / P.A Ct: 9944928521 / 9487935521.

**HINDU BC,** Sozhia Vellalar. 31/180cm, B.E., / Barani, Mesham, IT Pvt. Co at Bangalore, Rs.80,000 pm, Native Trichy, Wanted Suitable Female. Contact : 98945 25554, 94430 44292.

**IYENGAR ADVOCATE,** 32yrs, 5'11" BBA LLB–HON's Sastra University Completing(AOL)Practicing in Delhi–HC/ SC. Seeking qualified working bride. Ct 9841009174. Mail: gmh27d@gmail.com

**INTELLIGENT, HANDSOME** 29, 170cm, well–educated professional (MEng), EU citizen (Paris). Loving Tamil/ Telugu family. Seeking compatible bride. Caste no bar. Call/WA 9345634365.

**HINDU REDDIYAR** BE MBA 29 yrs fair working in USA , Salary 6000 USD per month seeks suitable bride employed in USA. CNB. Ph: +919445383782

**MUDALIAR, UPPER** Middle Class, Invite alliance for our Son, BE/34/ 165 cms, Fair, Anusham, Ex.TCS, now Own Bussiness(Corpt.advts, Short Films, Story, Script) 10 L/ PA, Chennai, Seeking Compatiable Bride, CNB, Ct.9986546042/ 8123499614

**KARUNEEGAR, VEG,** 28, 174cm, LLM, Lawyer, Law Firm, 8 LPA, Seeks Bride. Contact: 8056012034

### TAMIL

**LORD AYYAPPA** blessed 26 years old son,US Citizen in NY,School/Under–Graduation/IVY Graduation all in US , High belief in family values, Hindu–NonVeg–Viswakarma, Very Handsome, High–Earning, Has Sathya Sai/ Kanchi Periyava Anugragam, invites match proposal from family of similar faith. Please send the detailed family narrative to alliance.vgh@gmail.com.

**CHETTIAR 40/** 170cm unmarried. Clean habits, Head of marketing at London. Family in Pondy. Seeking educated bride 30–38 caste/status no bar. Ph: Whatsapp +44–7760779256

**32. CHRISTIAN.** Working in a PSB. Looking for financially independent, intellectually inclined Tamil/ Malayali woman as life partner. Caste/ Division no bar. Ctct:9789227517

**AGE–52,** HINDU, Mudaliyar, Business, Divorcee. Seeks Any Mudaliar OK. Divorcee/ Widower Ok. Ct: 9840776650

**VELLORE AGAMUDAYA** Mudaliyar Rishabam 39/165 BE, SWE,MNC/Chicago/USA,1L USD/A,Seeks working SWE.9487624807

**PILLAI/ MUDALIYAR** 38/BE, Swathi. Employed. Upper Middle Class Seeks Suitable Bride. Coimbatore 9843252888

**GOUNDER HANDSOME** boy 1994 born 182cm /Divorced/ MBA/ Businessman / Only Son/Affluent family is looking for a Match (080–69129265)

**MUDALIAR HANDSOME** boy 1991 born/ into Multiple Business/ Only Son/ Affluent family from Chennai looking for a Match (080–69129271)

**CSI NADAR,** 31yrs, M.Arch (US), 185cms, Business Family, Seeks Suitable Bride Contact: 9380791999

**HINDU GRAMANI,** Age 34, 175 cm, BE, PGPM Great Lakes, Remarriage, Working in MNC, 32 LPA, CNB, 9940354889

**MUDALIAR 30/**187 Handsome M.Tech. IIT,Sr.Geophysicist,ONGC,6200000.PA, Affluent CNB.9043991629, 9043987029

**1985 MUDALIYAR** Chennai Assistant Manager Private, Decent Background Seeks Bride 9952010118, 8610518808

**BRIDE WANTED** Agamudaiyar Mukkulothor 30 178 Cm working in US H1B financially well off looking for a bride same community either in US or those who willing to go. Ct 9884049959

**MALE 2ND** Marriage 50+ Small Business Person.Seeks Bramin Lady 40 Plus Issueless Can. Ct : 99948 40076

**CHENNAI, MUDLR.** Any Cast, PhD, Tetolr Divorcd, 41yrs.GM Chess Govt 2Lac /mth.Edu Girl.No expt :9884171419

**HINDU SC** ad 42 years BE MBA central Govt Bank AGM legally divorced no child seeks bride below 41 years. Contact: 8870315039.

**HINDU, BRAHMIN,** Age 27, MS, MNC, $1.5L, Ct: 8138900547

**IYER, Meena** Rasi, 27 Yrs /178 cm/ Fair/Slim, MBA Groom, Chennai now in Bangalore @ KPMG. Seek 162/ Slim, Bride. Contact: 9791158816

**TAMIL IYER,** 1986, Hastham, BE, ME, MBA, PhD Asst. Prof. B'lore 12.5L PA, Seeks Any Brahmin girl. WA: 9092501181 jsshyammohan@gmail.com

**Seeking BRIDE for Bridegroom**
**Hindu, Kulalar/Udayaar, 44 yrs, 170 cms, M.Tech, IT professional, Caste open for discussion. First Marriage Only**
**CT: 93842 76066**

**BRIDE WANTED**
**MS (CSE) 29/180, fair, good–looking, high–earning tech professional with established career and strong financial background based in Chennai, from a well settled, affluent family.**
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**PILLAI,** 24, 175 cms, BE & MBA (Pursuing), Engineer Project Management. Lives in Chennai. Father is retired HOD & Professor. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from professional family in similar community. Contact: 6366448343

**MUDALIYAR,** 26, 175 cms, MS. Lives in Pondicherry. Business class family. Looking for a suitable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

**NADAR,** 39, 163 cms, Divorced, BBA, Businessman, Sivakasi. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded match from similar community. Contact: 6366448343

**VISHWAKARMA,** 28, 168 cms, MBA. Lives in Thiruvarur. Business class family. Looking for a suitable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

### ELITE GROOMS WANTED

**CHETTIYAR,** 25, 152 cms, MA in HR, Now into Family Business. Father is a Businessman. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448343

**NADAR,** 26, 168 cms, MS. Lives in Australia. Business class family. Looking for a suitable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448344

**REDDY,** 24, 165 cms, BBA LLB, Working Professional, Chennai. Father is a Working Professional. Family is financially well off. Looking for an amiable match from similar community. Contact: 6366448343

**CHRISTIAN CSI, NADAR,** 21, 168 cms, BE. Lives in Chennai. Family is financially well off. Looking for a like minded and well educated match. Contact: 6366448344

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### TAMIL

**MUDALIAR (CNB)** : 31/165cm, M.S.(Comp.Sci), MNC, SWE, 1800000PA, Chennai, Elite Family, Seeks groom – Job / Business – 9962530015

**CHETTIAR (CNB)** : 25/ V.Fair & Beautiful, B.Tech, CTS, Eng,Chennai, Only daughter, Affluent Famil , Seeks groom – Job / Business – 8925019776

**COMPATIBLE GROOMS** from decent, well educated family wanted for a slim, fair Tamil girl ( BE, MS, PhD), aged 32, height 156 cm working in Denmark. Ph: 09551441789

**✔ Groom for** Hindu Girl, Fair, 165 cm Research Associate at Chennai. Contact: 7397670816.

**BRIDEGROOM WANTED** for a well–to–do hindu family's bride age 42, first marriage, degree–MSW, want from (FC, BC, MBC), working within India. CT: 9080359664.

**SC PRETTY** Girl 1992 Born /162cm /B.Tech /Divorced/ Chennai resident looking for a suitable match kindly call(080–69129267)

**NADAR PRETTY** Girl 1996 Born / B.E /M.TECH/ Software Professional/ Chennai resident looking for a suitable match kindly call(080–69129281)

**HINDU BEAUTIFUL** Girl 1990 Born / MBBS/ MD/ Working in USA /Family Resident chennai is looking for a suitable match kindly call (080–69129262)

**SENGUNTHA MUDALIAR** Hastham-39, 153Cms., B.E., MBA., M.S (Boston,USA), Working in Canada RBC - Upper Class family - Seek Bride Groom. Contact : 98430 92595.

**CASTE NO** Bar, 27yrs, B.Tech, MS, Elite Family background, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 9962791888

**MUDALIAR 25/**165 Fair, MS, Data Scientist, IBM, 2400000 PA, Affluent Family, CNB. 9043991629, 9043987029

**MUDALIAR 26** BE,MBA 160cm Good Looking,Well Settled Family Seeks Groom CNB Contact: 8778514465/ 7200866346

### DIVORCEE

**SUBBIAH, SAIVA** Pillai, 30, 172CM, Divorced B.E, IT Prof., Chennai Seeks veg, edu bride, 9987455657

### DOCTOR

**HINDU NADAR** 27/177 Cm MBBS MS 40 bedded own hospital, fair seeks doctor bride. Phone: 98841 88849

### MALAYALAM

**NAIR, 35/**181CM, Divorcee, Short Live, M.Tech., MNC Chennai, Rs.20 Lakhs/ PA. CNB. seeks suitable Bride. Ct: 99403 85403

**NAIR ERANAKULAM** 13–12–89/168 Thiruvathira B.Tech Manager Scale–2 Canara bank Manipal Ct Father 7012087429

### TAMIL

**GROOM WANTED** Mudaliyar 27yrs B.Tech, MS, Running Own Schools in Chennai, Elite business family 6385293227

**VANNIYAR, BDS,** 32, Revathi, Employed, Middle class family, Groom from same community needed. 98409 61251

**HINDU SCA** 26/160/Fair/ BE–CSE working in IT MNC, Chennai Seeks IT Groom. Contact : 9894767123, 9994494546

**MARUTHUVAR CA** 12L PA / Fair Good Looking. Seeking Suitable Groom. Call or WhatsApp Call +91 96007 76871

**WANTED TAMIL** Brahmin US Citizen working in US, tall, 24-26 years, 165cm for US Citizen girl working in US IT field, Harita, Poorattadhi (3), Kumbam. Iss1320613@gmail.com.

**NAIDU 50Y** Plus 2 working in a private company seeks suitable groom. Age and caste no bar. Ph: 70925 69171

**27 Years,** CSI Nadar, Chennai based Hardware Engineer looking for a well Qualified, well settled Groom from decent, Educated Family.Ct- 9840691230

**Hindu Mudaliar** Girl, 29yrs, M.L.Legal Manager, ICICI - Chennai, seeks Handsome, well Educated suitable Groom. Contact: 8682021009 / 87544 01199.

### TELUGU

**RICH NAIDU,** 30yrs, MBBS, Elite business family, Seeks Suitable Groom Contact: 6385293227

**NAIDU, DIVORCEE** 47/153 Fair Manager Seeks Educated, Employed Groom in Chennai Only. ps7193326@gmail.com

### TELUGU

**TELUGU CHETTIYAR,** 25yrs, B.Tech, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom Cont: 6385293227

**RICH NAIDU,** 25yrs, BE, MBA, Elite business family in Chennai, Seeks Suitable Groom. Contact: 6385293227

**KAMMA, 26/161cms, fair, IT Professional in Prime MNC Abudhabi, Looking for Elite KAMMA UAE Professional/Bussiness class. Contact: 98947 82255**

**Well-Educated, Cultured** and accomplished Brahmin Girl, 33 years with MBA from reputed Institute and presently doing PhD Overseas. Comes from a respected family with strong moral values. Seeking a compatible Life Partner (IIT/IIM/NRI/Doctor/ Corporate Leader preferred). Open to all Brahmin subsects. Reach out with biodata: alivelugampa@yahoo.com

**ॐ NAIDU Balija**, Chennai
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groominvited@gmail.com

### URDU

**SUNNI MUSLIMAH** Age 50, never married Chennai. Seeks practicing Muslim Man age 50–55 Marriage is solely for companionship whatsapp:6385852996

Continued on Page 4

**On the anvil:** The Kolhapuri chappals are handcrafted in modest workshops.

**A stitch in time:** At her home workshop, an artisan stitches the sole of the chappal.

**Finishing touches:** Inside Kolhapur's chappal market, an artisan polishes a pair of Kolhapuris, giving the handmade leather its sheen.

**Royal replicas:** Shubham Satpute, owner of Igna Leathers, showcases a pair of royal Kolhapuris, replicas of the footwear once worn by Shahu Maharaj, who is considered a visionary ruler.

**Timeless display:** Kolhapuri chappals on display at Rashtriya Leather Works, one of the oldest shops in the market. The cottage industry has received a boost with the global attention after fashion brand Prada praised the craftsmanship behind the traditional footwear.

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# Caste census: BBMP suspends 2 more staff

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has suspended two more employees for dereliction of duty in the task of pasting stickers as part of the door-to-door survey of Scheduled Castes, on Saturday.

Subhashini, Revenue Inspector (in-charge), and Hanumantha Raju, assessor of BBMP, have been suspended. Subhashini was ward supervisor in the Hombegowdanagar sub-division of the South zone and Hanumantha Raju was assigned to the Govinda Rajanagar sub-division. According to a BBMP release,Subhashini and Hanumantha Raju allegedly did not check that the stickers were being pasted indiscriminately without consulting the owners/residents of the houses.

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# Yoga to be part of curriculum in RGUHS-affiliated medical colleges

**Jayanth R.**
BENGALURU

The Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS) has taken steps to implement yoga classes for all affiliated medical colleges across the State from the academic year 2025-26.

The RGUHS will implement this programme in collaboration with S-VYASA University and has decided to extend yoga classes to students in Dental, Nursing, Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences. Yoga classes will be conducted for students once in a week or fortnight.

"Keeping in mind the well-being of our students, we decided to implement 'Compact Yoga for All the Students' in all the constituent colleges of our university. An order in this regard will be issued soon," said Bhagavan B.C., Vice-Chancellor of RGUHS.

The National Medical Commission (NMC) released an advisory in 2022 to implement yoga in all medical colleges . It is advised to introduce yoga training to all students during the foundation course for a maximum of one hour every day for 10 days. The Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga under the Ministry of AYUSH has developed a common yoga protocol andthe NMC had sent the booklets to all medical colleges. However, it was not implemented in the State. The RGUHS has launched 'drug-free, tobacco-free and plastic-free campus' campaign in its all affiliated colleges recently.

As a part of this campaign, it has decided to implement yoga classes.

"According to a national survey, 30% of healthcare workers and 20% of students studying in health care institutions in India are addicted to narcotics. Yoga is very helpful for the physical and mental health of the students. It is also helpful in relieving addiction and stress among students. A curriculum is being prepared regarding theory and practical classes. More emphasis will be given to practical in the curriculum," Dr. Bhagavan said.

"If yoga is made a part of the curriculum, it can be practised in the classrooms too," he added.

RGUHS has also taken steps for the mental health of students by starting counselling centers. "We have four RGUHS regional centres across the State, and it has been decided to start a 'Rajiv Gandhi Well Being Clinic Centre' here. If there is substance abuse, psychiatry and community medicine experts will conduct counseling and treatment at these centres. These facilities are for RGUHS students. In case of any requirements from any other schools and colleges, we will plan to extend them," Dr. Bhagavan said.

Along with this, the RGUHS is also planning to implement financial literacy programmes to their students like how banks work, loan processing system, how to manage their money and other resources, cyber crime and others.

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# 1,51,436 seats available in 245 State engineering colleges for 2025-26

This includes 71,303 seats under govt. quota, 31,703 under COMED-K quota, and 5,765 seats under supernumerary quota

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Higher Education Department (Technical Education and Planning) notified the seat matrix for engineering and architecture courses in the State, with 1,51,436 seats availabale in 245 engineering colleges for the academic year 2025-26.

This includes 71,303 seats under government quota, 31,703 seats under COMED-K quota, and 5,765 seats under supernumerary quota. Compared to the previous year, this year, the number of engineering seats has increased by 10,427. During 2024-25 academic year, 1,41,009 seats were available. Like every year, this year too there a large number of seats are available in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) courses. This time, a total of 38,178 CSE seats are available; last year, it was 33,573 CSE seats. In addition, 20,208 seats in Electronics and Communication engineering, 9,108 Information Science and Engineering and 8,960 Mechanical Engineering seats are available this year.

2025-26 seat matrix for engineering and architecture courses

| Category | Number of seats |
|---|---|
| Total Intake | 1,51,436 |
| KEA (Government quota) | 71,303 |
| COMED-K | 31,703 |
| SNQ | 5,765 |

A total of 6,255 seats are available in government engineering colleges. There are a total of 2,950 seats in aided engineering colleges, 95,236 seats in private unaided colleges, 10,440 seats in minority engineering colleges, 760 seats in University of Visvesvaraya College Engineering (UVCE), 33,120 seats in private universities, 2,280 seats in deemed universities and 395 seats available in government colleges with higher fees.

The State government has not given a no-objection certificate for an increase in intake for two colleges that were suspected to be part of the engineering seat blocking scam last year. BMS College of Engineering had applied for 120 more seats in Computer Science, and New Horizon College of Engineering had applied for 240 Artificial Intelligence and 660 CSE seats.

This year, a total of 2,75,677 students qualified in the Common Entrance Test (CET-2025), and 2,62,195 for engineering stream. Last year it was 2.74 lakh students who qualified to get into engineering courses.

# Ease regulatory frameworks, expedite processes related to patents, trademarks, says Union Minister Piyush Goyal

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

It is important that India eases regulatory frameworks and expedites the process related to patents and trademarks to foster a business-friendly environment, Union Minister for Commerce & Industry Piyush Goyal said here on Saturday.

The Minister was participating in an interactive session organised by the Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).

Mr. Goyal noted the economy of the country had shown remarkable resilience post-COVID, thanks to the country's increased focus on innovation, entrepreneurship, and robust policy support.

He said there was a rising global reputation of 'Made in India' products, driven by improvements in quality, design, and competitiveness, across sectors, including electronics, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, and textiles. "This shows India's growing economic stature," the Minister said.

**Innovation framework**

Highlighting India's robust innovation framework, Mr. Goyal said the government launched a ₹10,000 crore Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS) to support the early and growth-stage deep-tech startups. Also introduced was a ₹1 lakh crore Research & Development and Innovation (RDI) Scheme, offering long-term, low-cost capital to private sector R&D outfits.

State Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil said ₹3.4 lakh crore of the ₹ 5.56 lakh crore investment commitments the State received for manufacturing through the Global Investors Meet had resulted in formal project applications.

Mr. Patil said, "Companies such as Krones, Safran, TASL, and several others have already filed formal applications with the State, with many having commenced groundwork.'' He said the State was becoming the 'MRO Capital of Asia', with new MRO (Maintenance, Repair, and Overhaul) facilities by IndiGo and Air India operating and TASL's upcoming MRO unit and HAL's existing operations.

The session witnessed participation by industry experts Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Geetanjali Kirloskar, Devi Prasad Shetty and Kamal Bali, Chairman (South), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), among others.

Earlier in the day, speaking on the sidelines of Sangam 2025, an alumni summit organised by the IIT Madras and IIT Madras Alumni Association . Mr. Goyal said India does not negotiate under deadlines, but rather, it negotiates from a position of strength.

# Student aces IBDP exam

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Rishikesh Madhuvairy, a student of Greenwood High in Bengaluru, achieved a perfect score of 45 points topping the world in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) examination, results of which were published on Saturday for the May 2025 examination.

He was also the outgoing captain at the school and will next be pursuing Materials Science at Rice University in the U.S.

# Workshop on history and computing conducted

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Department of History at Bengaluru City University (BCU) hosted a one-day workshop on "History and Computing" on Saturday at the WBC Auditorium for postgraduate students.

Inaugurating the event, acting Vice-Chancellor K.R. Jalaja emphasised the importance of digital technology in making Indian history accessible to younger generations.

"Steps will be taken to ensure PG students have access to digital resources," she affirmed.

Mahesh, Deputy Director of the Karnataka State Archives, inaugurated the workshop. He said, "Digitisation not only preserves historical records but also democratises access, making archival materials available to all." He demonstrated tools used in digital preservation.

P. Jayasimha from the Mythic Society said that digital tools and AI were opening unprecedented avenues in analysing and preserving historical data.

The event featured thematic sessions by experts.

# Case booked against son of BJP MLA

**The Hindu Bureau**
BELAGAVI

The police have registered a *suo motu* case under Arms Act against Santosh Jarkiholi, son of BJP MLA Ramesh Jarkiholi, for opening fire in the air during the annual fair of Laxmi temple in Gokak on Saturday. He used a double-barrel gun to open fire in the air while his friends and supporters cheered, the police said.


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**SALE NOTICE**

**E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described Immovable properties mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of the Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 21.07.2025 (11.00 AM to 12.00 PM), for recovery of Rs. 3,24,27,295.03/- (Rupees Three Crore Twenty Four Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Five and Three Paisa Only) as on 02.07.2025 with further interest and cost thereon due** to the **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from (1) M/s. Honnammadevi Exports Private Limited.,** No. 213, Vanamala, 9th Main 3rd Stage, BEML Layout, Rajarajeshwari Nagar, Bengaluru-560098 **(2) Pradeep S Wodeyar** # 25 Veerabhadreshwara Krupa, 2nd Main Road, Dwarkanagar Chandra Layout, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040 **(3) Sri. Nanjappa Manjunath Kadasuru** S/o K M Nanjappa 18/17 Sukshema, 2nd Main Road, Marenahalli, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru-560040.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **19.07.2025 - 5.00 pm.**

(₹. in lakhs)

| Lot No | Description of the immovable assets: | Reserve Price | EMD Amount | Incremental value at Bid |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | All that piece and parcel of the **Residential property bearing Site No.35 & 36,** formed out of **Sy.No.119, V.P. Khatha No.2538, House List No.3284/35 & 36** of Nagarbhavi Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk Presently bearing Corporation No.13, Situated at Canara Bank Colony Road, Maruthi Nagar, BBMP Ward No.40, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 60 Feet and North To South: 40 feet along with Electricity, water and sanitary connection together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded as follows: East by : Property belong to Mr. Shivanna, West by : Private property, North by : Property of Mr. Pradeep S Wodeyar, South by : Road. | Rs. 243.00 | Rs. 24.30 | Rs. 1.00 |
| 2 | **SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY :** All that piece and parcel of the residential property bearing Site No. 59 [Fifty Nine], Rajarajeshwari Nagara Sabhe Sl No. 2317/59, formed by The BEML Employees' House Building Co-operative Society Limited, in Sy. Nos. 91/2, 99/2, 99/3, 101/2, 140, 141, 142, 173, 174, 175, 178, 180,181, 182, 184, 188, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 207,208, 210, 211, 217/1B, 218/1,218/2, 219, 220, 223/1, 223/2, 223/3,224/1, 224/2, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229/1, 229/2, 230 & 241 at 5th Stage BEML Layout of Halagevaderahalli Village, Kengeri Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, measuring East to West: 50'0" Feet and North to South: 80'0" Feet, totally measuring 444.44 Square Yards or 4000 sq.ft. and bounded as follows: East by: Site No. 60, West by: Site No. 58, North by: Site No. 56, South by: Road. This property now comes under the jurisdiction of Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike.<br>**SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY :** And undivided share of 500 square feet or 1/8th in right, title and interest in the Schedule 'A' property, measuring in total 4000 sq.ft.<br>**SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY :** The Residential Flat/Apartment No. FF1, in the 1st Floor, having Present BBMP Khata No.5985/FF1/59/2317/1, New PID No.160-W0798-6-2, in the Apartment known as "Shodhan Homes' constructed on Schedule 'A' Property, having 1535 sq.ft. of Super Built-up area constructed with RCC roofing, vitrified flooring, Teak and Honne Wood doors and windows with all civic amenities like Electricity, Water and Sanitary connections along with one covered car parking space in Ground Floor, bearing No. FF-1 and bounded on: East by: Setback area, West by: Setback area, North by: Setback area, South by: Apartment No. FF 2. | Rs. 93.00 | Rs. 9.30 | Rs. 1.00 |

**Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.**
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or may contact **Chief Manager, ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 08025310066, 9039609346, 9966397756** during office hours on any working day.

**Place: Bengaluru**
**Date : 03.07.2025**

**Sd/- Authorised Officer**
**Canara Bank**



**ARMY PUBLIC SCHOOL**
**ASC CENTRE & COLLEGE**
AGRAM – POST, BANGALORE-560007
Phone: 080 25550677 Website: www.apsasc.edu.in

**Tender Notice**

sealed quotations are invited for renewal of Vspace License at Army Public School ASC C & C. Tender Enquiry/Form (also uploaded on website www.apsasc.edu.in for reference) to be collected from school office after payment of ₹250/-(Demand Draft in favour APS ASC Centre & College) from 06 July 2025 to 10 July 2025 (1000hrs to 1300hrs). Last date to submit filled tender form is 11 July 2025 at 1130 AM.

**Principal**
**For School Management**



**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**Notification No. 01/2025-26/HVS/CH/UBL Dt:30.06.2025**

The Applications are invited from the interested candidates for the posts of "Honorary Visiting Specialist" to work in Central Hospital, South Western Railway, Hubballi in the following specialties for the period of one year from the date of appointment.

| Sl. No. | Speciality | Category | No. of days in a week | Hours per Visit | Honorarium to be paid per month. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 01 | Cardiology | Super Specialist | 6 days/week | 04.00 hrs | 96,000/- P.M |
| 02 | Dermatology | Specialist | 4 days/week | 04.00 hrs | 48,000/- P.M |
| 03 | Ophthalmology | Specialist | 4 days/week | 04.00 hrs | 48,000/- P.M |

The interested candidates should fulfill the following:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Qualification / Experience | PG Degree with three years experience or PG Diploma with five years experience. |
| 2 | Age Limit | Between 30 to 64 years |
| 3 | In case any of the consultants are currently working in Government/Quasi Government organization, they have to submit a NOC from the concerned organization along with the application. | |

The applications are to be submitted to the undersigned or can be mailed to **mdchubl@swr.railnet.gov.in on or before 06.08.2025 up to 06.00 p.m.** For further details contact office of the undersigned on all working days between 10.00 am to 6.00 pm or visit our website **www.swrindianrailways.gov.in**

The details of the copies of the certificate in support of age, qualification, experience etc., are to be enclosed with self attestation.

The selection will be done based on the documents submitted and no interviews will be conducted.

In case of any ambiguity in interpretation of any of the instruction/terms regarding the determination of eligibility, the interpretation by MD/CH/UBL will be final and binding.

**Medical Director/Central Hospital**
**Hubballi**
PUB/262/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**Tender Notice No. SWR_COA_09_Stations_SBC**
**Dated : 28-06-2025**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

| Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| Provision of COA at Kuppam, Baiyyappanahalli, Whitefield, Channapatna, Hindupur, Krishnarajapuram, Kolar, Tumakuru and Dharmapuri stations in Bengaluru Division and integrating the same with datalogger for automatic feeding of train arrival / departure timings. | Rs. 49,58,419.06 |

Last date for submission of bids:
**Upto 12:00 Hrs on 21-07-2025**
**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer/Bengaluru**
PUB/255/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**E-Tender Notice No. HE-07-2025-26**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

| Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| Improvements to VVIP Rest House in Golf Link Colony and Officers Rest House in Hubballi | Rs. 23,71,795/- |

Last date for submission of bids:
**Upto 11:00 Hrs on 28-07-2025**
**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Electrical Engineer/ General/Hubballi**
PUB/274/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**E-Auction for leasing of Parcel Space, Parking & Advertising and Miscellaneous contracts by Bengaluru Division.**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites bidders for E-Auctions on the following dates:

**1.** Catering & MPS stalls : 07-07-2025, 08-07-2025, 15-07-2025, 16-07-2025, 17-07-2025, 18-07-2025, 21-07-2025, 25-07-2025, 29-07-2025
**2.** Parking & Pay and Use : 10-07-2025, 30-07-2025
**3.** Parcel : 07-07-2025, 08-07-2025, 09-07-2025, 15-07-2025, 29-07-2025
**4.** Advertising ATM & Misc : 07-07-2025, 08-07-2025, 16-07-2025, 17-07-2025, 18-07-2025, 22-07-2025
**5. PMBJK :** 07-07-2025

**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Commercial Manager**
PUB/266/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26 **Bengaluru**

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**
**E-TENDER NOTICE NO. 19UBL 2025-26**
**Dated : 27.06.2025**

The undersigned on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works.

| Sl. | Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Hubballi Division :** Cess work in Hubballi-Karajgi Hubballi-Gadag,Gadag-Hotgi & Bagalkot-Khajjidoni section in Sr.DEN Central jurisdiction for a length of 55.6 km. | Rs. 12,80,45,596/- |
| 2 | **Hubballi Division :** **Sub Work-I :** Proposed Construction of Type-II-12 units staff quarters at Bagalkot. **Sub Work-II :** Proposed Construction of Type-III-12 units staff quarters at Vijayapura. **Sub Work-III :** Proposed Construction of Type-II quarters of 04 units at Vijayapura. | Rs. 6,91,66,760/- |
| 3 | **Hubballi Division :** **Sub Work-I :** Proposed development of ECO park with allied facilities in Railway club for making green structure at Hubballi. **Sub Work-II :** Provision of path way around ECO park in golf link colony Hubballi. | Rs. 1,95,93,808/- |
| 4 | **Hubballi Division :** Vyasa Colony - Swamihalli section-Cess repair & widening of formation for a length of 40.58Km | Rs. 6,86,82,764/- |
| 5 | **Hubballi Division :** Provision of additional/sacrificial Height gauges in the approach of the Subway/RUB (Total 14 No's) in Hubballi Division. | Rs. 1,68,92,761.27 |

Last date for submission of bids:
**Up to 11.00 Hours on 25-07-2025**
**For details log on : www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-ordination Hubballi**
PUB/261/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tenders for the following works.

**Tender Notice No. 35CAMCFIREEXTINGUISHERS**
**Dated : 25-06-2025**

| Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Fire Extinguishers in C&W Depots, primary maintained trains of Hubballi, Hosapete, Vijayapura of Hubballi Division for a period of Two years. | Rs. 48,45,805.70 |

Last date for submission of bids:
**Upto 11:00 Hrs on 16-07-2025**

**Tender Notice No. 36CAMCFIREEXTINGUISHERS**
**Dated : 25-06-2025**

| Name of the Work | Approx. Value |
|---|---|
| Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Fire Extinguishers in C&W Depots, primary maintained trains of Navalur, Belagavi, Castle Rock & Vasco-da-Gama of Hubballi Division for a period of Two years. | Rs. 28,08,113.26 |

Last date for submission of bids:
**Upto 11:00 Hrs on 16-07-2025**
**For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in**
**Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Co-ordination/Hubballi**
PUB/256/AAS/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is for the information of the General Public that **Mr. Vikas Ahuja & Mrs. Ritika Ahuja** during transit has lost the Original Sale Deed dated 26/08/2022, executed by **M/s Bothra Leasing Services & M/s Sattva Developers Private Limited** in favour of **Mr. Vikas Ahuja & Mrs. Ritika Ahuja,** registered as Document No. RJN-1-04239/2022-23, Book-I, stored in CD No. RJND1236, in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Rajajinagar, Bangalore, in respect of the Schedule Property mentioned herein below. The report of the same has been lodged with the Police Station on 02/07/2025 vide Report No. 1682661/2025. If any person/s finds it, is requested to kindly return the same to the undersigned.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that Piece and Parcel of the 3BHK Bedroom Apartment bearing **No. H-901,** BBMP Khata No. 1/294, New E-PID No. 2409501175, on the 9th floor in 'H'- Block of building known as **'Laurel Heights'** having a super built-up area of 1020 square feet, together with One Covered Car parking space in the building, along with undivided, right, title and interest in equivalent to 0.209% i.e. 377.70 square feet and bounded by:

**East by : Land bearing Sy.No.81,**
**West by : BWSSB Pipeline and Pipeline Road,**
**North by : Land bearing Sy.No.82/1,**
**South by : Land bearing Sy. No. 80**

**SHILPA V HATTI,**
**ADVOCATE**
No. 43, II Floor, AGB Layout 2nd Stage, 5th Cross, Maruthinagar, Nandini Layout, Bangalore -560 096. (M) : 79960 37016



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform to the public in general that, my client **Sri. N. Sanjeeva Setty**, S/o late D.S. Nanjappa Setty, aged about 79 years, presently R/at No. 54, 6th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru - 560027 being one of the partners of the partnership firm "M/s. Preeti Food Products" dated 01-01-1982 which was constituted and formed under the provisions of Indian Partnership Act, 1932 with other partners viz., Sri. K.S. Srinivasa Setty, Sri. N. Chandrashekar and Sri. N. Ananda Kumar respectively. The Partnership firm dated 01-01-1982 acquired the Industrial Land bearing Plot No. 262-B and 263, situated at Bommasandra Industrial Area, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk through the registered Sale Deed dated 15-11-2001 and 11/02/2003 respectively which was allotted in the partnership business name "M/s. Preeti Food Products" and "M/s. Preeti Packaging Industries". Based on the same a registered Joint Development Agreement dated 14-06-2010 came to be executed in favour of M/s. Himayam Engineers and Builders. To carry the development works as well as to meet the legal demand in respect of the firm's properties aforesaid my client had executed the registered General Power of Attorney dated 27-06-2024 vide Document No. BNG(U)JNR/250/2024-25 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, Bengaluru in favour of Sri. N. Krishnamurthy S/o D.S. Nanjappa Setty, residing at No. 11, 6th Cross, Wilson Garden, Bengaluru -560 027 having Aadhar Card No. 8687 1184 5420 and PAN No. ABTPM5797L. based on the said registered GPA dated 27/06/2024 the registered Deed of Cancellation of Joint Development Agreement dated 10/02/2025 vide Document No. BSK-1-3252/2024-25 in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru.

Since the object of the executing the GPA is completed by virtue of executing the deed of cancellation of joint development agreement dated 10-02-2025 for having cancelled the joint development agreement dated 14/06/2010 executed by the partnership firm dated 01-01-1982 in favour of M/s. Himayam Engineers and Builders, Chennai. In view of the same my client has issued the legal notice dated 02-07-2025 (sent through speed post) to the GPA Holder Sri. N. Krishnamurthy and informed that my client has cancelled the registered GPA dated 27/06/2024 w.e.f. 11-02-2025.

In view of the above facts and circumstance I hereby called up on any person/ society/firm/Bank/s/Financial Institutions statutory Authorities or any other body not to deal with Sri. N. Krishnamurhty the GPA holder of my client in respect of the below mentioned partnership firm's schedule properties since my client has withdrawn the agency created by virtue of the cancellation of registered GPA. In the event anybody deals with the firm's properties with the GPA Holder based on the said GPA dated: 27/06/2024 on behalf of my client such transactions or contract/s are void contract/s and it is informed to the general public not to deal with my client's GPA Holder as far as my client is concerned. Inspite of this public notice if any person/s does any nature of transaction based on the said GPA it will be on their sole risk and cost such transactions are not binding on my client in any manner.

**SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing PID No. 5729766080 (Old PID No. 306/262/B), earlier KIADB Plot No. 262-B, measuring 01 Acre (approx.. 4047 Sq. Meters), in Bommasandra III Phase Industrial Area, carved out of land bearing Sy. No. 243 and Sy. No. 244, situated at Bommasandra village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, now within the revenue jurisdiction of Bommasandra Town Municipal Council and bounded as follows: On or towards **East by:** Property No. 262-A, On or towards **West by:** Property No. 263. On or towards **North by:** Road. On or towards **South by:** Property No. 260-A.

Together with all easement rights, appurtenances, water courses and right of access, etc.

**SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing PID No. 1501397945 (Old PID No. 307/263), earlier KIADB Plot No. 263, measuring 02 Acres (approx.. 8086 Sq. Meters), in Bommasandra III Phase Industrial Area, carved out of land bearing Sy. No. 243, Sy. No. 244, Sy. No. 251 and Sy. No. 252 situated at Bommasandra village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, now within the revenue jurisdiction of Bommasandra Town Municipal Council and bounded as follows: On or towards **East by:** Property No. 262-B. On or towards **West by:** Property No. 264. On or towards **North by:** Road. On or towards **South by:** Natural Tank.

Together with all easement rights, appurtenances, water courses and right of access, etc.

**M. VEERABHADRAIAH,** Advocate
10th Floor, Tower Block, Unity Building, Mission Road, Bengaluru-560 002.
Mob: 94483 88949. E-mail: ijoorrmgm@gmail.com



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**RC Catholic,** Bank officer, Divorcee, Working in Chennai, seeks suitable Bride. Contact: 75501 05368.

**IYER TAMIL,** BA Sanskrit, 35/177cm, Bharatwaja, Dhanusu, Pooradam, Salary: 80,000 PM. seeks any Brahmin Bride (Age : 27-33) Ph: 93440 37750

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**TELUGU**

**NAIDU 29/**175 Thiruvathirai B.Sc Working in AGS office Chennai, seeks suitable Educated working Bride Ct 8248042840 / 9841095644.

**TELUGU**

**AGE 45** MCA Sadhayam,Kumbha rasi Fair Software Engineer seeks suitable Bride, caste no bar. PH: 9894670293

**KAMMA 34/**171, MCA, working in MNC, contact: 9840269792

**TELUGU BOY** 1995 Born/ 177cm/ MBBS/ MS (Doctor) resident of Hyderabad from a Affluent Family is looking match(08069103121)

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# AI cameras to be installed on State highways to curb accidents and violations

The ₹70-crore project will be implemented in three phases. It aims at enhancing road safety using cutting-edge technology; a state-of-the-art command centre to monitor real-time violations

**Darshan Devaiah B.P.**
BENGALURU

A view of Bengaluru-Mysuru highway near Ramanagara. The cameras would be installed at critical junctions identified through data and in consultation with the local police. FILE PHOTO

In a major push to reduce road accidents and traffic violations, the Karnataka Transport Department will soon roll out AI-based surveillance cameras on major highways, starting with seven key locations in and around Bengaluru.

The ₹70-crore project will be implemented in three phases and is aimed at enhancing road safety using cutting-edge technology, Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy told *The Hindu*.

The artificial intelligence-enabled cameras will be linked to a high-tech command centre that will monitor real-time violations and automatically generate e-challans for offenders.

"This initiative is primarily to reduce accidents and control violations like speeding, not wearing seat belts, and other violations. A state-of-the-art command centre will support this effort, helping us monitor highways more efficiently," Mr. Reddy said.

The Minister said that the government has approved the entire ₹70 crore required for the project which will also be used for various initiatives and awareness campaigns of the Transport Department.

**Locations for AI camera installation in first phase**

- Ramanagara on Bengaluru-Mysuru highway
- Srirangapatna
- Bengaluru Airport Road
- Attibele
- Hosapete
- Parle-G Factory junction on Tumakuru Road
- Nelamangala on Tumakuru Road

The first phase will focus on installing the cameras along high-traffic corridors and accident-prone stretches, including Ramanagara on the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway, Srirangapatna, Bengaluru Airport Road, Attibele, Hosapete, the Parle-G factory junction on Tumakuru Road, and Nelamangala. The remaining phases will expand coverage to additional districts based on priority and traffic data. In the second phase the department plans to install the AI cameras in 20 places.

An official from the Transport Department said the cameras would be installed at critical junctions identified through data and in consultation with the local police. "We are targeting locations where violations and accidents are frequent. For the first phase, around 60 cameras will be installed across 10 districts," an official said.

According to Transport Department data, Karnataka recorded a staggering 1,92,685 road accidents over the past five years, highlighting the urgent need for better enforcement and monitoring mechanisms. "The use of AI-powered cameras is expected to act as a deterrent to reckless driving and ensure smoother traffic flow on State highways. This initiative, supported by automation and real-time data processing, will make roads safer for all commuters," official added.

# Man booked for harassing DPAR Under Secretary over govt. post

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Vidhana Soudha police on Saturday registered a case against a man from Mandya for allegedly harassing the Under Secretary of the Department of Personal Administration and Reforms, demanding a first division assistant (FDA) post on compassionate grounds.

Based on a complaint, the police booked Ajay Dutta M.N. for criminal intimidation.

**On compassionate grounds**

According to the complaint, the father of the accused, who was a police constable working at K.R. Sagar police station, died on duty in May 2018.

As per the rules, the accused had applied for a government job on compassionate grounds in May 2019.

**Graduation mandatory**

The DPAR, considering his application, verified his qualifications and offered him a second division assistant (SDA) post under group C as he had not completed his graduation.

However, the accused started insisting that he wanted the FDA post and allegedly spammed the Under Secretary in this regard. As the spamming continued, the Under Secretary lodged a complaint with the police alleging harassment from the accused following which the case was registered.

# Citizens protest over delay in launch of Namma Metro's Yellow Line

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

BMRCL MD M. Maheshwar Rao, Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya and the protestrrs at the Lalbagh gate in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

In a show of mounting frustration over repeated delays, hundreds of commuters gathered outside Lalbagh Main Gate on Saturday morning demanding the immediate operation of the Yellow Line of Namma Metro in Bengaluru. The protest, led by Bengaluru South MP Tejasvi Surya, was marked by citizen anger and a call for accountability from Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL).

The Yellow Line – a critical 19-km corridor connecting R.V. Road to Bommasandra via key bottlenecks like Silk Board Junction– was originally scheduled to open in 2021. However, the launch has been pushed back multiple times, most recently missing a June 2025 deadline. Commuters say the delays are not just administrative lapses, but daily disruptions to their lives.

"This protest is about accountability," said Manjunath, a civil engineer and BTM Layout resident who travels daily to Bommasandra. "Every day, I spend at least an hour crossing the Silk Board Junction. Yesterday night at 12 a.m., I was stuck there again. This line was supposed to be ready three years ago. It's our tax money. Why is there no urgency?" he asked.

Several residents spoke of potential savings in both time and cost once the line opens. With daily commutes currently stretching to over 90 minutes through traffic-heavy corridors, the metro is expected to cut that by half for many.

The Yellow Line also connects major employment zones, and residents argue it could ease congestion on one of the city's worst stretches.

Sunil B., a resident of Kudlu Gate, who commutes to Manyata Tech Park, shared similar frustrations. "Every month, there's a new promise – June, then December, then March. I take a bus that takes two hours. If the Yellow Line opens, I'll save at least an hour every day," he said, adding that even his elderly parents are impacted due to the lack of a convenient transit.

A petition regarding five issues was submitted to M. Maheshwar Rao, Managing Director of BMRCL, by Mr. Surya. The five issues are commissioning of Yellow Line, non-disclosure of Fare Fixation Committee (FFC) report, delay in Phase 3 (of Namma Metro) implementation, Hebbal - Sarjapur metro and Tunnel Road conflict, ignoring Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) 2020 metro policies.

"We have been patient long enough. Citizens deserve better. If BMRCL cannot commit, we will intensify protests across all metro stations," Mr. Surya told the protesters.

Citizens demanded that the line be opened by August 15.

Prakash Mandoth, president of the Bangalore Metro and Suburban Rail Passengers' Association, said, "We do not want blame games. We want deadlines to be respected. August 15 is a realistic opening target."

Mr. Rao arrived at the protest site and received the petition.

Later, he told mediapersons that the teething troubles faced by the contracted agencies over the years had been solved. "We will approach the competent authority soon. We will do our best to open the line as early as possible," he said.

## *Aiming high*

**Ready for the throw:** Chief Minister Siddaramaiah holding the javelin, presented to him by Neeraj Chopra at the Sree Kanteerva Stadium in Bengaluru on Saturday. K. MURALI KUMAR

**Timings**
**BENGALURU**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **SUNDAY, JUL. 06** | | |
| RISE | 05:59 | SET 18:50 |
| RISE | 15:05 | SET 01:56 |
| **MONDAY, JUL. 07** | | |
| RISE | 05:59 | SET 18:50 |
| RISE | 15:57 | SET 02:39 |
| **TUESDAY, JUL. 08** | | |
| RISE | 05:59 | SET 18:50 |
| RISE | 16:51 | SET 03:27 |

| Bengaluru Weather | max | min |
|---|---|---|
| Tumakuru | 32 | 25 |
| Mysuru | 29 | 20 |
| Bengaluru | 28 | 21 |

**Bengaluru Today**
**28°C** The weather will be dry. Day will be comfortable. Night will be pleasant.

**Bengaluru Tomorrow**
**29°C** Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail.

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THE HINDU
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# Two arrested for role in surety racket

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The Halasuru Gate police on Friday uncovered a surety racket and arrested two persons who were allegedly creating fake documents to facilitate surety for accused involved in different cases.

The accused have been identified as Abid Wasim, 46, a resident of Gurappanapalya in BTM layout, and his assistant, Ahmed Zubair, 23, from Yeshwanthpur. The racket reportedly helped the accused in various cases to get out on bail easily.

The duo has been charged under Sections 318(4), 336, 340, 341, and 61 of BNS.

The racket came to light when police sub-inspector Bhagavanthray Mashyal of Halasuru Gate station, based on a tip-off, raided Bannappa Park on K.G. Road, 250 metres away from the station, and caught the duo red-handed.

The police said they recovered a bag full of KSRTC salary slip photocopies, copies of RTC mutation of different lands, Aadhaar cards with several photographs, and a seal. The accused allegedly confessed that they were creating and selling fake documents to help the accused come out on bail. Inquiry revealed that the accused would download the property document copies from the government website and create fake Aadhaar cards, morphing the photographs of the person who would submit surety papers for the bail.

The accused had different rate cards for different cases based on the gravity of the cases, police said.

# Complaint against police personnel for collecting money from shopkeepers in city

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A complaint has been lodged with the State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) that the police personnel are allegedly collecting money from around 100 shops in the migrant labourers' colony in and around Varthur in Bengaluru by threatening to book cases against the residents under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA).

**'Harassment increased'**

"Collecting bribes from shopkeepers and labourers working as waste collectors is not new, but the harassment increased many folds, especially after the police intensified the drive against the sale of loose cigarettes and tobacco products at petty shops in and around Bengaluru," said a shopkeeper, who filed a complaint seeking respite from the harassment.

According to the complaint filed on July 3 with a series of audio and video recordings of policemen allegedly collecting bribes, the complainant stated that he, on behalf of labourers, was seeking urgent attention to the grave and on-going violation of human rights, police misconduct, and abuse of power within the jurisdiction of Varthur police station.

"The victims of this abuse are mostly migrant workers from West Bengal and families living in informal settlements across Varthur. The situation has escalated to include disturbing actions by local police. Police are collecting weekly and monthly bribes from small vendors, shopkeepers, and daily-wage workers. This is being done openly, and under threat of arrest or harassment if payments are not made. From each shop, they collect anywhere between ₹200 to ₹3,000 depending on the shop. There are over 100 migrant dwellings in Varthur police limits," the complainant stated.

"They forcibly took my fingerprint machine, which is essential for identification and documentation work for labourers. They are demanding ₹23,000 to return the machine, and are calling me to the police station under pressure. This is blatant theft and extortion," the complainant alleged.

This complaint in the SHRC comes even as the Lokayukta had claimed to be registering more complaints against police personnel. The main charges against police are corruption and lapses on their part in their duties, the Lokayukta had stated.

Recently, two policemen in Bengaluru were suspended for allegedly extorting ₹37,000 from a differently-abled man by threatening to frame him in a fake drug case.

Constable Parameshwar Nayak and Head Constable Sharan Basappa Poojari, attached to Indiranagar police station, are facing a departmental inquiry following their suspension over the incident that occurred on the night of June 14, senior police officials said.

# Delivery man dies after being hit by KSRTC bus

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

A 25-year-old delivery man was killed after a Karnataka Road Transport Corporation bus knocked him down at Mysuru Bank Circle in the early hours of Saturday.

The victim who was identified as Azhar Pasha was a resident of Neelasandra in Bengaluru.

He was working for an online shopping platform in the city. Azhar Pasha was on his way home when the bus knocked down his motorcycle, killing him on the spot.

**Bus seized**

The Upparpete traffic police have detained the driver and seized the bus.

# Health and training initiatives for garbage management workers

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Tushar Girinath, Additional Chief Secretary, Urban Development Department and Chairman of Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML), has directed officials to organise regular health check-up camps for all garbage management workers within BBMP limits.

Speaking at a meeting hosted by BSWML in collaboration with Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), 'C40 Cities, Sensing Local, and Saahas', he emphasised the importance of early health interventions and monthly meetings to address workers' challenges and foster better communication.

**DWCCs**

Mr. Girinath also stressed strengthening Dry Waste Collection Centers (DWCCs) and integrating informal workers, supporting their transition into entrepreneurship. Identity cards for workers will be updated and reissued.

He lauded the ongoing training and dialogue sessions on climate action for frontline workers under the Bengaluru Climate Action and Resilience Plan (BCAP).

From March to June 2025, over 600 BSWML workers across five city zones, namely East, West, South, Bommanahalli, and Mahadevapura, participated in three-phase training.

Around 75 workers engaged in dialogue sessions to express concerns and co-create solutions.

The training focused on solid waste management, safety, bulk waste handling, and income generation.

Om Shanti

Mrs. Rohini Chitnis
Mother, Teacher & Guide to many

Passed away peacefully on **July 1st, 2025,** in Chennai.

"From the unreal, lead me to the real. From darkness, lead me to light. From death, lead me to immortality."

Brihadaranyaka Upanishad 1.3.28

**Gautam Chitnis & Family, Rati Dodabalapur and Family**
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ISSN 0971 - 751X

# I can get PM's nod for Mekedatu project in five minutes: HDK

**The Hindu Bureau**
MYSURU/BENGALURU

**Union Minister says Congress government lacks the strength to convince the T.N. government**

Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy on Saturday said the Congress government lacked the strength to convince the Tamil Nadu government on the Mekedatu project and that he could "get the Prime Minister's approval for the project within five minutes".

There has been a war of words between Mr. Kumaraswamy and Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, with the latter challenging the former to help get clearances for the project from the Centre rather than continually criticise the Karnataka government.

H.D. Kumaraswamy M.A. SRIRAM

On Friday, speaking in Mandya, Mr. Kumaraswamy said that only the family of H.D. Deve Gowda could make the long-pending project a reality.

**'I stand by my word'**

Speaking to reporters before participating in the DISHA committee meeting in Mysuru on Saturday, Mr. Kumaraswamy said, "If the Congress government has any strength, let them get their ally in Tamil Nadu to agree to the Mekedatu project. I can get the Prime Minister's approval for this project within five minutes. I still stand by what I said during the election campaign."

Mr. Kumaraswamy had announced, ahead of Lok Sabha polls, that he would retire from politics if he failed to implement the Mekedatu project in the next five years, if elected to power.

The Union Minister said in Mysuru that the Congress came to power through a padayatra in Mekedatu's name but had simply wasted two and a half years. "How can the project be done if they just place the responsibility on me?" he asked.

Lashing out at the Siddaramaiah-led government, the Union Minister said, "The Congress is under pressure from its ally. It neither has the strength to convince the Tamil Nadu government nor the courage to oppose or defy the DMK. Only if it boldly defies Tamil Nadu government will the Mekedatu project become a reality".

Meanwhile, speaking in Bengaluru, Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil urged Mr. Kumaraswamy not to indulge in "petty politics" over the Mekedatu issue, and instead, as a Union Minister, work constructively to help Karnataka get all the permissions for the project.

"Mr. Kumaraswamy is in the Union Cabinet and has an opportunity to help our State. Let him focus on it. Petty politics will only do harm to the larger interests of the State," he said.

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**Govt. of Karnataka**
**Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society, Bengaluru**
**(An Organisation of Government of Karnataka)**
No.8, MSB-1, 6th & 7th Floor, Karnataka Marketing Federation Building, Cunningham Road, Bengaluru-560052.

No: KREIS/INFR/OTH/117/2025-ADMN/E-221454 Date: 05.07.2025

**TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Through e-Procurement Only)**

Tenders have been invited on 05.07.2025 for **Supply of Grinders to Schools functioning under the Karnataka Residential Educational Institutions Society across Karnataka,** through e-Portal vide Indent No. **KREIS/2025-26/IND0081** and the last date for receipt of tenders is **04.08.2025.** The details may be viewed in the **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** website.

**Sd/- Joint Director (Admin)**
**and Tender Inviting Authority, KREIS**

DIPR/CP/YC/1656/2025-26

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**Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd.**
**(A Government of India Enterprise-Navratna)**
**CIN:L74899DL1999GOI101707**

**Notice Inviting Open E-Tender**

**IRCTC-SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE invites the following Open E-Tenders: -**

| Units | Particulars | Last Date of Submission |
|---|---|---|
| Jan Ahaar | Open e-tender cum e-auction for provision of catering services for a period of **Five years** through **Jan Ahaar** at **Guntakal Railway Station**. | 04.08.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. |
| Refreshment Rooms | Open e-tender cum e-auction for provision of catering services for a period of **Five years** through **Refreshment Rooms** at **Kazipet, Kurnool Town, Sambalpur, Kadapa, Renigunta and Eluru Railway Stations**. | 04.08.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. |
| Food Plaza | Open e-tender cum e-auction for setting up, operation and management of Food Plaza at **Shahdol Railway Station** for a period of **Nine years** | 04.08.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. |
| Fast Food Units | Open e-tender cum e-auction for setting up, operation and management of **Fast-Food units at Brajrajnagar, Ambikapur, Umariya, Machilipatnam, Gudivada, Bargarh Road, Mahabubnagar, Anuppur (PF No.1,) Anuppur (PF No.3/4,), Dongargarh, Balaghat, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Itwari, Uslapur & Angul Railway Stations** for a period of **Five years**. | 04.08.2025 up to 15:00 hrs. |

**Tender document downloading & participation can be done on Website:-**
< **www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC** >
In case of any corrigendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on website **www.irctc.com** and **www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC**.
**Office Address: IRCTC Ltd., South Central Zone, #9-1-129/1/102, 1st Floor, Oxford Plaza, Sarojini Devi Road, Secunderabad - 500003**

To book your meal online, please log on to www.ecatering.irctc.co.in or download "**Food on Track**" Mobile App

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**GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED**
(Wholly owned government of Karnataka)
CIN Number: U04010KA2002SGC030436

No. GESCOM/SEE (Procurement)/EE/AEE/2025-26/24381-86 Date:05.07.2025.

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPP Portal mode only)**

**Manufacture and supply of following materials as per GESCOM Technical Specifications:** Tender Nos: **1) PC-1459:** Leaky Detector with Video PD/ Insulating kit, 2) **PC-1460:** Leaky Detector with Ultrasound PD, 3) **PC-1461:** Non-Contact Voltage Detector/ High Voltage Detector. **Tender Amount Highest: Rs. 333.18 Lakhs, Tender Amount Lowest: Rs. 105.38 Lakhs. Dates:** Bid documents available at KPP Portal: on or after **07.07.2025.** Last Date for Bid submission, Opening of Technical Bid and opening of price Bid: As per KPP Portal. **Bidder Qualifying Requirements:** As per tender documents (IFB): For additional information Contact: Superintending Engineer El., Procurement, Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi-585102. Mobile: 94484 99997. Web Site Address: www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For information about the KPP portal, contact the helpline at +91 – 8046010000 / 8068948777 / 9240214000/ 9240214001 or e-mail address: **support@eprochelpdesk.com**

**Sd/- Superintending Engineer (Procurement), GESCOM, Corporate Office, Kalaburagi**

DIPR/Kalaburagi/266/KSMC&A/2025-26

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರಕಾರ
**ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ನಗರಾಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಕೋಶ, ಉತ್ತರ ಕನ್ನಡ, ಕಾರವಾರ – 581 301**
**DISTRICT URBAN DEVELPOMENT CELL, D.C. OFFICE UTTARA KANNADA DISTRICT, KARWAR-581 301**
**Telephone: 08382 221170 Email: ka.uttarakannada.dudc@gmail.com**

**No: UK/DUDC/AmrutNagarothanaPhase-4/CR/2024-25** **Dated: 05-07-2025**

**Short Term Tender Notification (Call-2)**

The Executive Engineer, District urban Development Cell, Uttar Kannada district, Karwar invites tenders from eligible KPWD Registered contractors for Amruth Nagarothan-4 Project work as per KTPP Act 1999 Rule 2000 as detailed below through KPPP Portal (**http:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in**).
Uploading of tender documents on **07-07-2025 at 16.00 hrs**, Pre bid Meeting / Tender for clarification date:**11-07-2025 at 11:00 hrs,** Last date for uploading of completed tender documents on **21-07-2025 at 17.00 hrs,** Opening of Technical Bid: **22-07-2025 at 17.30 hrs** & Opening of Financial Bid: **25-07-2025 at 16.00 hrs.**

| ULB Name | Indent Number |
|---|---|
| CMC Karwar | DMA/2024-25/ BD/ WORK_INDENT 34499/Call 2 |

All other required tender information may be availed from the website **http:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. and **http://www.uttarakannadadudc.mrc.gov.in/.**or Project Director, DUDC, UK Office .

**Sd/-, Executive Engineer**
**District Urban Development Cell**
**DC Office, U.K. District, Karwar**

DIPR/ADK/KSMCA/357/25-26 dt. 05.07.2025

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**(An Autonomous Institute of Goverment of Karnataka)**
**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE MEDICAL COLLEGE & RESEARCH INSTITUTE, BENGALURU**

**No.SABVMCRI/SUP/22/2024-25 (CALL-4)** **Dated: 05.07.2025**

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**

e-tenders is invited from interested eligible firms in accordance with ktpp act 1999 and 2000 act for notification of short term tender for SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF MOBILE C-ARM WITH FLUOROSCOPY FOR BOWRING HOSPITAL OF SABVMCRI, BENGALURU
1. Date of Commencement of Download of Tender Document from eProcurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ from 04.07.2025 2 Date of Online Queries:07.07.2025 upto 5:30 pm 3 Last Date and Time for uploading of eTender in eProcurement portal: 14.07.2025 upto 5:30 pm. 4 Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids (Single Cover System): 16.07.2025 at 10:30 AM
For more details pertaining this tender, contact the Director and Dean / Assistant Administrator of the Institute during Office Hours.

**Sd/- Director Cum Dean,**
**Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College & Research Institute, Bengaluru**

DIPR/CP/1664/CCL/2025-26

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**Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur**
**(Govt. Autonomous Institution)**
**Hydrabad Road, Raichur -584102 Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89**
**www.rims-raichur.karnataka.gov.in info@rims-raichur.com**

No. RIMS/SUP/TEND/SER/03/2025-26/CALL-2(DME/2025-26/SE0500) Date: 03.07.2025

**E-TENDER NOTIFICATION**

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Providing Security Services to Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences and Rajiv Gandhi Super Specialty Hospital (OPEC), Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

1) Tender document may be download from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 04.07.2025 2) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 02.08.2025 upto 5.30 PM3) Technical bid will be opened on 04.08.2025 at 11.30 AM

Further information may be obtained from above office and from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in website.

**Sd/- Director**
**Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur**

DIP/RCR/127/KSMC&A/128/2025-26

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**ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ**
ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕಲಾಮಂದಿರ, ವಿನೋಬಾ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು – 570 005
ಕಛೇರಿ : 0821-2513225, ಮಿಂಚಂಚೆ: dkc.mysuru@gmail.com

**ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:** ಸ.ನಿ.ಕ/ಕ.ಸಂ.ಇ/ಮೈಸೂರು/ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.07.2025

**ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ** (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ ಮತ್ತು ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ರಂಗಮಂದಿರವಾದ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕಲಾಮಂದಿರ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಿರುರಂಗಮಂದಿರಕ್ಕೆ ಹೊರಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ಆಧಾರದ ಮೇಲೆ ಮೂವರು ಎಲೆಕ್ಟ್ರಿಷಿಯನ್, ಮೂವರು ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಆಪರೇಟರ್, ನಾಲ್ವರು ಭದ್ರತಾ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿ, ಮೂವರು ತೋಟದಮಾಲಿ ಮತ್ತು ಆರು ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತಾ ಕೆಲಸಗಾರರ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ 1948ರ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನಗಳ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ(1948)ರ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 11)5ನೇ ಪ್ರಕರಣದ 1ನೇ ಉಪ ಪ್ರಕರಣದ (ಬ) ಖಂಡದ ದರಗಳನ್ವಯ ಹಾಗೂ CEG ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಗಳನ್ವಯ ಇಲಾಖೆ ನಿಗದಿಪಡಿಸಿದ ವೇತನದಂತೆ ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿಸಿದ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮೂಲಕ) ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತೆ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗೆ ಒಟ್ಟು ಮೊತ್ತ | ರೂ.55,64,508/– |
| 2 | ಬಿಡ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ಮತ್ತು ದಿನಾಂಕ | http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ದಿನಾಂಕ: 07/07/2025 |
| 3 | ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ ಮೊತ್ತ | ರೂ.1,11,290/– |
| 4 | ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯುಮೆಂಟ್ ಅಂತರ್ಜಾಲದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಪ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡುವ ಅಂತಿಮ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.07.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 17.00 ಗಂಟೆ |
| 5 | ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 22.07.2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ |
| 6 | ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಮತ್ತು ಸಮಯ | ದಿನಾಂಕ: 25.07.2025 ಬೆಳಗ್ಗೆ 11.00 ಗಂಟೆ ಅಥವಾ ನಂತರ |
| 7 | ಯಾವುದೇ ವಿಚಾರಣೆ ಸ್ಪಷ್ಟೀಕರಣಕ್ಕಾಗಿ ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ವಿಳಾಸ ಹಾಗೂ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ | ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರ ಕಚೇರಿ, ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಕಲಾಮಂದಿರ, ಮೈಸೂರು – 570005 ದೂ: 0821–2513225 |

**ಸಹಿ/– ಸಹಾಯಕ ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು**
**ಕನ್ನಡ ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಸ್ಕೃತಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು**

DIPR/MYS/KAVITA/584/25-26

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**KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**
**(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)**

**BRIEF SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Retender)**
**(Through KPP Portal Only)**

Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited re-invites Bids on electronic mode for the following works against following Enquiry Numbers:

**No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE(PROC)-3/AEE4/2025-26/909-924 Date: 05.07.2025**

**Enquiry number/ Name of the Work**

**1) KPTCL/2025-26/TL/WORK_INDENT2405**

Strengthening of existing 66kV Transmission line from existing 220/66kV Anchepalya sub-station to Yadiyuru substation with HTLS (HPC) conductor on existing 66kV Anchepalya - Yadiyuru SC line on DC Tower with one of the circuit to be LILO of Thippur sub-station for a distance of 28.564kms, along with construction of one number of 66KV TB at 220/66KV Anchepalya and 66/11KV Yadiyuru in Kunigal Taluk, Tumakuru District on Total Turnkey basis including Supply of all Materials/equipments, Mandatory Spares, Erection (Including Civil Works) of all materials/equipments, Testing and Commissioning and buy back of released materials from existing line.
Availability of Bid documents in KPP Portal : on or after **07.07.2025.** Last date & time for receipt of Bids is **23.07.2025@15:00hrs**

**No. CGM(Tech)/DGM(PROC &APCC)/EE-Proc/AEE-1/2025-26/891-908 Date: 05.07.2025**

**Enquiry number/ Name of the Work**

**2) KPTCL/2025-26/SS/WORK_INDENT2407**

**Combined Package** for,
**Work-A)** Replacement of 1x8MVA, 66/11kV Power **Transformer-1** by 1x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11 kV Attigulipura Sub-station** in Chamarajanagara Taluk and District. **Work-B)** Replacement of 1x8MVA, 66/11kV Power **Transformer-2** by 1x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11 kV Attigulipura Sub-station** in Chamarajanagara Taluk and District. **Work-C)** Replacement of 2x8MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer by 2x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11kV Ramapura Sub-Station** in Hanur Taluk, Chamarajanagara District. **Work-D)** Replacing 1x6.3MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer by 1x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11kV Bommalapura Sub-station** in Gundlupete Taluk, Chamarajanagara District. **Work-E)** Replacing 1x8MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer by 1x20MVA, 66/11kV Power Transformer at **66/11kV Sathegala Sub-station** in Kollegala Taluk, Chamarajanagara District.
on Partial Turnkey Basis, including Supply of all Materials/Equipments(Excluding supply of 11kV Switchgear) and Erection (including dismantling & Civil Works) of all Materials/Equipments, Testing and Commissioning.
Availability of Bid documents in KPP Portal : on or after **08.07.2025 at 15:00 Hrs.** Last date & time for receipt of Bids is **24.07.2025@15:00hrs.**

The bids will be received through electronic tendering mode only. The details regarding participation in the E-tendering process can be obtained by logging on to KPTCL website **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink "E Procurement KPTCL" or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
**Any extension of Due date for Bid submission will be intimated in the Karnataka Public Procurement portal.**
Any details required in this regard can also be had from the Office of the undersigned during Office hours.
All Corrigendum/Addendums shall be noticed by the bidders before the last date of submission of the Bids.

**Sd/- Chief General Manager(Tech),**
**Corporate Office, 2nd Floor,**
**Kaveri Bhavan, KPTCL, Bengaluru - 560 009.**

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**ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ರವರ ಕಛೇರಿ ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. 576229**

**ಕಛೇರಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಾಇಂ/ಕನೀನಿನಿ /ವಾಯೋವಿ/ಪಿಬಿ ಟೆಂಟರ್/03–2025–26/472 ದಿನಾಂಕ 04.07.2025**

**ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**

(ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆ) (Two Tender Documents System)

ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಬಾಗದ ಕಾರ್ಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಡಿ ಬರುವ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಇ –ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಸಂಬಂಧಪಟ್ಟ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು ವಿವರಗಳು ಕೆಳಕಂಡಂತಿರುತ್ತದೆ.

1. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದು.
2. ವಾರಾಹಿ ಎಡದಂಡೆ ವಿತರಣಾ ನಾಲೆ – 32ರ ನಿರ್ಮಾಣ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿ.
3. ಟೆಂಡರಿಗಿಟ್ಟ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 31020.41 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು
4. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಬಹುದಾದ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.07.2025
5. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಪೂರ್ವಭಾವಿ ಸಭೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14/07/2025
6. ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲದ ಮೂಲಕ ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರ್ಮೆಂಟ್ ವೇದಿಕೆಯ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಭಾಗವಹಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 23/07/2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ
7. ಟೆಂಡನ್ನು ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 24/07/2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.15 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
8. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಅಂರ್ತಜಾಲ ಅಥವಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್, ಕನೀನಿನಿ, ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಇವರನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.
9. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿ, ಮಾರ್ಪಾಡು ಅಥವಾ ಇತರ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ, https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಚುರಪಡಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು

**ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನಿಯರ್ ಕನೀನಿನಿ ಕಛೇರಿ ವಾರಾಹಿ ಯೋಜನಾ ವಿಭಾಗ ಸಿದ್ದಾಪುರ, ಉಡುಪಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.**

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**KARNATAKA STATE ROAD TRANSPORT CORPORATION**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER No. 04 Dated: 05/07/2025**

Tenders (Pre-qualification and or (Commercial offers) through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in are invited for supply of the following Goods/Services/ Equipment:

| Tender Nos as per E-portal | Nomenclature of Items/ Services/Equipment | Tender Value in crores. (Approx) | Last date for submission of documents @ 17.00 Hrs. |
|---|---|---|---|
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0217 | Procurement of Special Power Tools | 2.50 | 04/08/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0218 | Procurement of Body worn Camera | 0.49 | 18/07/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0221 | Supply and maintenance of communication system Walkie Talkie | 0.33 | 18/07/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0222 | Procurement of TTF required for Cargo vehicles (size:8.25R16PR) | 0.15 | 18/07/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0223 | **Supply, Installation & Commissioning of 24 volt,1.5 KVA Inverter on turnkey basis | 0.12 | 18/07/2025 |
| **SHORT TERM TENDER** | | | |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0219 | Selection of vendor for Supply, Commissiong & Maintenance of Front Dash Camera and Saloon Camera for buses of KSRTC | 2.50 | 12/07/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ IND0220 | Selection of vendor for Supply and Maintenance of AIS-140 compliance devices for KSRTC Bures and Establishment of Command Control Centre Under the scheme "Central assistance for strengthening Public Transport System in the country" funded by MoRTH GoI | 27.52 | 15/07/2025 |
| KSRTC/2025-26/ SE1882 | Engaging an agency for providing Driver Services of contract basis to Bangalore Central, Mysore (Rural) Mangalore, Ramanagar & Puttur Divisions | 14.95 | 18/07/2025 |

**Only Pre-quatfied vendors as per GoK or no DPAR/113/EGM/2020 dtd.03/10/2025 are eligible to participate. Further any addendum/corigendum in respect of change in calender of event specification, scope of work other tender terms and conditions etc, will be uploaded/published through e-portal only.

**NOTE:-** Interested suppliers need to register in the e-procurement portal. For further information log into http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. In case of further assistance, contact e-procurement cell (Phone. No. 080-46010000/080-68948777). Interested bidders may also contact e-procurement cell for training on bid submission. Mail to Support@eprochelpdesk.com for further information if required. In case of bidders need assistance from KSRTC, can communicate at cosp@ksrtc.org (contact: 7760990225, 7760990224).

**Sd/- CONTROLLER OF STORES & PURCHASES**
**(Tender Inviting Authority)**

DIPR/CP/1647/AKAR/2025-26

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**BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE**
Office of the Senior Assistant Director (Education),
N.R. Square, Bengaluru-02

**No.: S.A.D.(E)/P.R/E-133914/2025-26** **Date: 05.07.2025**

**INVITATION FOR QUOTATION - CORRIGENDUM**

**Reference:** Quotation invitation number No.: S.A.D.(E)/P.R/E-133914/2025-26
Date: 02.07.2025 published in Kannada Prabha and The Hindu newspapers.
As per the above reference, a quotation was invited to obtain the current market rates for providing educational materials to children studying in the 93-Shishuvihar schools of the Palike for the academic year 2025-26. In view of objections received regarding the specifications in the said notification, the specifications of the educational materials have been amended as follows, and accordingly, the quotation has been invited again to obtain the current market rates.

| Sl. No. | Stationary Items Details | Required Quantity | Specification |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Crayons (Plastic) | 5202 Box's | 14 colour shades in one box (Tin) (Size 110 mm length) Triangular Grip. |
| 2 | Pencil | 5202 Box's | 10 pieces in one box with eraser and sharpener. |
| 3 | Clay-modelling dough | 5202 Box's | (6 assorted colours per box with 300 gms, 4 moulds 1 Crafttool) Item Dimensions 14 X 21 X 5 Centimeters. |
| 4 | Flash Card (Animals and their young one) | 5202 Pack's | 36 Flash cards: front and back (Paper 250 GSM Size-Width 9.8 cms, Height 15 cms, Weight 150 gms) |
| 5 | Flash Card (alphabets front & back) | 5202 Pack's | 26 Flash cards: front and back (Paper 250 GSM Size-Width 9.8 cms, Height 15 cms, Weight 100 gms) |
| 6 | Flash Card (Fruits and vegetables) | 5202 Pack's | 40 Flash cards (Paper 250 GSM Size-Width 9.8 cms, Height 15 cms, Weight 200 gms) |
| 7 | Flash Card (colour and shapes) | 5202 Pack's | 36 Flash cards front and back (Paper 250 GSM Size-Width 9.8 cms, Height 15 cms, Weight 150 gms) |

**(1)** Quotation should be submitted by **5:00 pm** on **12.07.2025.**
**(2)** Only suppliers of Stationary Items are required to submit the quotations along with the GST certificate.

**Sd/- Senior Assistant Director (Education), BBMP**

# 'Elevated cardiac risk markers among overweight adolescents'

**Girish Pattanashetti**
HUBBALLI

The objective of the study was to evaluate early signs of cardiovascular metabolic risk among school-going adolescents in Dharwad.
GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

A preliminary study taken up by the State-run Karnataka Medical College and Research Institute (KMCRI), Hubballi, has revealed that a majority of adolescents – particularly overweight students included in the study – had biochemical profiles indicative of increased risk of adverse cardiac events.

In February 2025, the Multi-Disciplinary Research Unit (MDRU) of KMCRI took up the study among adolescents in the wake of recent trends suggesting a shift with risk factors manifesting early in life, although Cardiovascular Diseases (CVDs) are often considered ailments of adulthood.

The objective of the study was to evaluate early signs of cardiovascular metabolic risk among school-going adolescents in Dharwad. The team of researchers chose 30 asymptomatic, overweight students from class VIII and IX drawn from six schools both in urban and rural areas of the district.

**Alarming findings**

Although the sample size was small, the findings were quite alarming for the team led by MDRU nodal officer Ram Kaulgud and co-investigator Manjunath Nekar. During the one-month study, along with taking blood samples, the team members collected details on the students' lifestyle, routine activities, screentime, food habits and other related aspects.

Of the 30 students screened, one was found to be diabetic and four were diagnosed with hypertension. The screening also revealed Lipid Profile abnormalities among the students. The study found elevated total cholesterol in five students, elevated triglyceride levels in 11 students with one having critically high value of 499 mg/dL. This apart, LDL cholesterol was elevated in five students.

**Cardiac risk**

The study revealed that 'Homocysteine' levels were elevated in 26 out of the 30 students, indicating an increased risk for cardiovascular disease. It found elevated Lipoprotein (a) in four students. It also revealed that 'high sensitivity C-reactive Protein' (hsCRP), a marker of inflammation and cardiac risk was significantly elevated in 18 students, suggesting that over 80% of the participants had biochemical profiles indicative of increased risk of adverse cardiac events.

The preliminary study concluded that there is an alarming prevalence of subclinical cardiac risk factors among adolescents even in the absence of overt symptoms and it has highlighted the need for urgent public health interventions, lifestyle modifications and routine cardiac risk screening in school health programmes.

**To rope in other MRUs**

Now after the preliminary study, KMCRI wants to go for a larger sample study in coordination with other MRUs of medical colleges and hospitals.

"We have received appreciation by the Indian Council for Medical Research for this preliminary study and the premier medical research organisation has advised us to continue it further. Accordingly, we are planning to conduct a larger sample study in coordination with other MRUs and based on the findings, we will submit a report to the government," Director of KMCRI, Dr. S.F. Kammar, told *The Hindu*.

# No link between COVID and cardiovascular events: Study

Although conventional risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, and smoking remain prevalent in a majority, some patients presented with none of these

**Afshan Yasmeen**
BENGALURU

A pilot observational study by the State-run Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research (SJICSR) has found no association between premature cardiovascular disease and a prior history of COVID-19 infection or COVID vaccination.

Amid public anxiety over the trend of sudden cardiovascular events (heart attack, sudden cardiac death) post COVID-19, the Karnataka government this February set up an expert committee headed by Jayadeva insitute director K.S. Ravindranath to evaluate the temporal and potential causal links with prior SARS-CoV-2 infection and/or COVID-19 vaccination.

The study involving 251 patients, including 32 females, aged below 45, was aimed at presenting evidence-based insights, identifying risk factors, and proposing recommendations for surveillance and prevention. The committee submitted its report to Harsh Gupta, Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare on Saturday.

Although conventional risk factors such as hypertension, diabetes, dyslipidemia, and smoking remain prevalent in a majority of the 251 patients, some patients presented with none of these, suggesting the possible involvement of novel or under-recognised mechanisms, Dr. Ravindranath told *The Hindu*.

Analysing all national and international peer reviewed scientific literature, clinical studies and clinical registries to study the possible association of sudden cardiovascular events with past history of COVID-19 infection and vaccination, the Jayadeva committee noted that most studies/reports published globally have also not found any causal association. "On the contrary, COVID vaccination has been shown to be protective against cardiac events in the long term," Dr. Ravindranath said.

**Risk factors**

"While 87 of the patients were diabetic, 102 were hypertensive, 35 were having cholesterol disorder, 40 had family history of heart diseases, 111 were smokers and 77 patients did not have any of the conventional risk factors. As many as 19 out of 251 patients had a history of previous COVID-19 infection," he explained.

Almost all (249) out of 251 patients had been vaccinated against COVID. While 53 received only one dose, 180 received two doses and 17 received all three doses of vaccine. As many as 144 had been vaccinated with Covishield, 64 with Covaxin and 52 were unaware of which vaccine they had received.

To compare the risk factor profile of similar premature coronary artery disease patients prior to the pandemic, the team used data from the institute's Premature Coronary Artery Disease (PCAD) among the young registry maintained between April 1, 2019 and May 31, 2019. As the PCAD registry was maintained for patients aged under 40, a subset of patients from the present COVID PCAD study aged below 40 were grouped and compared with the 2019 age and sex-matched population, the report stated.

## The recommendations

- Establish a cardiac surveillance programme and national registry for sudden cardiac deaths among young adults
- Maintain autopsy-based reporting and registry for unexplained deaths in young adults
- Conduct routine heart screening at school level (10th standard students)
- Conduct detailed clinical examination for screening of congenital heart diseases or structural abnormalities, inherited rhythm disorders, overweight/obesity, hypertension, lipid disorders and insulin resistance
- Hold public health campaigns regarding cardiovascular diseases, their causes, risk factors, early detection, and preventive diet and lifestyle changes
- Promote physical activity, smoking cessation, reducing screen time, reducing sugar and salt intake, adequate sleep and tackling stress
- Fund research for large-scale prospective case control clinical studies by a nodal agency such as the ICMR to conduct a multi-disciplinary collaborative studies to probe the long-term effects of COVID-19 infection and vaccination

**Difference in risk factor profile post COVID (2025) vs pre COVID (2019)**

| Risk factor | Post COVID (2025) | Pre COVID (2019) |
|---|---|---|
| Diabetes | 20.5% | 13.9% |
| Hypertension | 17.6% | 13.9% |
| Cholesterol disorder | 44.1% | 34.8% |
| Smoking | 51% | 48.8% |
| Family history | 14.7% | 11.6 % |
| Obesity | 11.7% | 9.3% |

# 'Rise in risk factors post COVID-19'

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The pilot observational study by SJICSR has pointed out a significant rise in the prevalence of common risk factors that lead to cardiovascular disease (hypertension, diabetes, smoking, dyslipidemia).

Director K.S. Ravindranath said current data did not support the belief that "long COVID" is responsible for the rise in sudden cardiovascular events among the young.

"Rather, a rise in the prevalence of the common risk factors that lead to cardiovascular disease (hypertension, diabetes, smoking, dyslipidemia) is the best explanation for the rise in sudden cardiovascular events. In the light of these findings, a multifaceted public health strategy is essential," he asserted.

# HC allows Minister George's son to use forest road 24/7 to access private land

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed the Forest Department to give 24/7 unhindered access to Rana George, son of Energy Minister K.J. George, to use a road within the forest to access his private property situated within the boundaries of Nugu Wildlife Sanctuary in H.D. Kote taluk of Mysuru district.

However, the court made it clear clear that while using the property, the petitioner should not cause any damage, physically or otherwise, to any flora and fauna in the sanctuary.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order recently while allowing a petition filed by Mr. Rana, who had questioned the legality of the restriction against the use of the road between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. imposed in the communication dated March 1, 2024 issued by the department while allowing him to use the road to reach his immovable property only between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

"...The State government has granted access in terms of Section 27(1)(c) of the Act, but adds a rider that it should not be between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. This cannot be countenanced. If there is access, it should be complete access. Thus, the order that permits access between certain hours is, on the face of it, contrary to Section 27 of the Act and its interpretation by the apex court and the High Court of Madras," the court said while quashing only the restriction imposed on using the road between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. among other conditions, while permitting him to use the road.

The petitioner had sought permission to use the road within the forest as another road available to reach his property gets submerged during rain or whenever the water level in the Nugu dam raises. It was argued that restriction on the timings to use the road infringed on his fundamental right of movement in the private property owned by him for the last 25 years.

# IISc to study feasibility of Hemavati river link canal project

**The Hindu Bureau**
BENGALURU

Scientists from the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, will study the feasibility of the Hemavati river link canal project in Tumakuru district.

Union Minister of State for Jal Shakti V. Somanna has recommended an inspection by experts from IISc and "we have accepted this recommendation," said Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, who holds the Water Resources portfolio.

The decision to conduct the feasibility study was taken at a meeting chaired by Mr. Somanna and Mr. Shivakumar with legislators of all parties on Friday.

Speaking to reporters, Mr. Shivakumar said, "It is not just about Kunigal, but we have to provide water to the entire Tumakuru district. We have a plan for it and we will distribute water in such a way that it is fair to all. It is our duty to take care of the interests of all taluks."

He said that all taluks were equally important to him and that a scheme would be formulated to provide water to all taluks of Tumakuru.

The link project has trigged a political slugfest with the BJP and the Janata Dal (S) accusing the ruling Congress of attempting to divert water to taluks of Bengaluru South district (formerly Ramanagara).

**भारतीय खाद्य निगम**
**FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA**
**Regional Office:**# 10, East End Main Road, 4th 'T' Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560041
**No. RO KA-32.0011.0/11/2025-CON-RO KA**
**Date: 04.07.2025**
**ई-निविदा सूचना / e-Tender Notice**
जेम पोर्टल के माध्यम से "दो बोली प्रणाली" के तहत, **1) पीडबल्यूएस बेलगावी (कुट्टाल्वाड़ी) & आरएच/जीएस सांबरे, 2) पीडबल्यूएस/ आरएच /जीएस कारवार, 3) एफएसडी विजयपुरा और आरएच/जीएस अलियाबाद,** में दो वर्ष के नियमित एचटीसी के लिए ऑनलाइन निविदाएं आमंत्रित की जाती हैं । बोली **28.07.2025** को दोपहर 2.00 बजे तक ऑनलाइन जमा की जानी है।
एनआईटी और निविदा प्रपत्र "www.fci.gov.in" और "https://gem.gov.in" पर उपलब्ध हैं। पंजीकरण, प्रशिक्षण और बोलियों को ऑनलाइन प्रस्तुत करने के लिए, निविदाकारों को "https://gem.gov.in" पर देखने का अनुरोध किया जाता है।
Online Tenders are invited under "Two Bid System" through GeM Portal for regular Handling and Transport Contract for two years at, **1) PWS Belagavi (Kuttalwadi) & RH/GS Sambre, 2) PWS/RH/GS Karwar, and 3) FSD Vijayapura & RH/GS Aliyabad.** Bid should be submitted online within **2.00 PM on 28.07.2025.**
NIT and tender forms are available in "www.fci.gov.in" & "https://gem.gov.in". For registration, training and submitting bids online, tenderers are requested to visit https://gem.gov.in.
महाप्रबंधक (कर्नाटक)
**GENERAL MANAGER** (KARNATAKA)

**ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ**
ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ. ದೂ: 080-27833730
E-Mail: itstaff_ulb_hebbagodi@yahoo.com | Website: www.hebbagodicity.mrc.gov.in
ಸಂ:ಹೆ.ನ.ಸ/ತಾಂ.ಶಾ/ಟೆ.ನೋ/ಸಿ.ಆರ್/11/2025–26 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 05.07.2025
**ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ/ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಮರು ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ**
ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಎಸ್ ಎಫ್ ಸಿ ಮುಕ್ತನಿಧಿ ಮತ್ತು 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸು ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ 2020–21, 2022–23, 2023–24, 2024–25ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ 15ನೇ ಹಣಕಾಸಿನ ಉಳಿಕೆ ಅನುದಾನ, 2016–17 ಮತ್ತು 2018–19 ಎಸ್ ಎಫ್ ಸಿ 5% ಅನುದಾನ ಹಾಗೂ 2021–22ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿಯ 5% ಮತ್ತು 2025–26ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭೆ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ **ಒಟ್ಟು 18 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 2.00 ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ. 49.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳನ್ನು** ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ನಿಯಮ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 2000 ಹಾಗೂ ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ಕೆ.ಜಿ–1 ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜಿನಂತೆ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಗಳಿಂದ/ಸೇವಾದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಹಾಗೂ ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲೂ–1 ಮತ್ತು ಕೆ.ಡಬ್ಲೂ–2 ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರುಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ನಿಯಮಾನುಸಾರ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಮರುಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:14.07.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮರುಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.07.2025ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು** ಹಾಗೂ ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಮರುಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:21.07.2025 ಸಂಜೆ 5.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಮರುಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:22.07.2025ರಂದು ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ ತೆರೆಯಲಾಗುವುದು** ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಯಾವುದೇ ರೀತಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಥವಾ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಯಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್‌ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು.
ಸಹಿ/–
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಪ್ರಮೀಳ ಪಿ.ರಾಮಚಂದ್ರ
ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ.
ಜಾಹಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜಿಎ/1652/2025–26
ಸಹಿ/–
ಶ್ರೀ ಮಂಜುನಾಥ್ ಆರ್
ಪ್ರಭಾರ ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ.

**Government of Karnataka**
**Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Division Ballari**
Email: ee_pwdbellary@yahoo.com Telephone No: 08392 -266123
**No: EE/PWD/BD/TS-6/KKRDB/2024-25/1871** **Dated : 04.07.2025**
**Short Term Tender Notification (Two Cover System)**
The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division, Ballari invites the tenders for the works detailed in the table from the eligible contractors registered in Karnataka Public Works Department, through Karnataka public procurement portal. Two cover tender procedure as per KTPP Act shall be followed. The tender documents can be downloaded through the website https:kppp.karnataka.gov.in. For any additional information the tenderers may contact the office of the undersigned during office working hours.
**TABLE**

| Sl No | Details of Works | Amount of Estimate (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---|---|---|
| 1) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22316 (Reserved for SC Category) | 100.00 |
| 2) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22429 | 75.00 |
| 3) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22430 (Reserved for CAT-II(A) Category) | 75.00 |
| 4) | PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT22304 | 66.00 |
| 5) | PWD/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT20054 | 200.00 |
| 6) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22453 | 75.00 |
| 7) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22452 | 75.00 |
| 8) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT2245 | 75.00 |
| 9) | PWD/2025-26/RD/WORK_INDENT22287 (Reserved for CAT-I Category) | 90.00 |

**Note:** Any changes either in tender dates or any other conditions and also re-tender, tenderers can view in KP Procurement Portal. No Separate Tender notification will be published in the News paper. in this regard.
1)Venue, Date and time of Pre Bid Meeting for the works: **09-07-2025 at 11.00 AM in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.** 2)Last dates for queries (through KP-procurement portal: **11-07-2025 upto 12.00 Hours.** 3)Last date for submission of tenders through kp-procurement portal: **14-07-2025 upto 16.00 Hours.** 4)Date and time of opening of Technical Bids: **15-07-2025 at 16.30 Hours in the office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari**
**DIPR/Ballari/244/KSMCA/2025-26**
**Sd/- Executive Engineer, PWD Division, Ballari.**

## OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

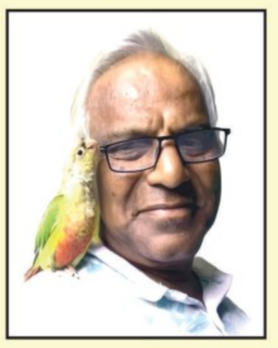
**DEATH**

With profound sorrow,
we announce the passing of our beloved

**REVATHI RAMANI (88)**
**Alumni of QMC and Music College**
**Attained Sadgati on 3rd July 2025**
Unique for her zest for life, enthusiasm, relationships, amazing memory of people, names, dates and incidents Graded artiste of AIR with remarkable knowledge and proficiency in Carnatic music.
An excellent conversationalist, tech savvy and an expert in solving the most difficult sudoku puzzles.
***All of us will miss you..***
Children, Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren
Contact +91 9884098889, 9789077934

**DEATH**

**In Loving Memory of**



**MJ ANTHONY DEVARAJ**
May 9th 1951 - July 5th 2025
**Funeral Service**
July 6th, 2025 | 11 AM
St. Joseph's Church, Briand Square
**Burial**
1 PM | Mysore Road Cemetery

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**

In ever loving memory of

**Dr. S. M. CHANDRAMOHAN**
who left us on 06/07/2020
*He was a soul so rare and beyond compare, No longer in our lives to share, but in our hearts you are always there*
**Rema, Asmita & Apsara**

**IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONES**
To dedicate a space in this section, Please contact:
**Bengaluru:** 98455 29981, 080 - 22071826
**Hubballi:** 0836 - 2338600
**Mangaluru:** 0824 - 2417575, from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
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## INBRIEF

### Wild elephant believed to be from T.N. found dead in A.P.

A wild female elephant believed to have emerged from the forests of neighbouring Tamil Nadu was found dead on the Sadum-Kalluru road in Pulicherla mandal in Andhra Pradesh on Saturday. The pachyderm's death led to panic in the nearby villages. Veterinary officials from Tirupati and Chittoor conducted a post-mortem. According to forest officials, the elephant had consumed a huge quantity of mangoes from the nearby gardens and died due to indigestion.

### BRS leaders file complaint against YouTube channel

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leaders have filed a complaint with the Banjara Hills police on Saturday against the management of YouTube channel iDream Media, its anchor Soumya Reddy, and advocate Arun Kumar, accusing them of spreading false and defamatory content targeting party president and former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao on the channel on June 25 in connection with the ongoing phone tapping case.

### Kerala to launch its first skin bank in Thiruvananthapuram

The first skin bank in the State is ready at the Government Medical College in Thiruvananthapuram. The ₹6.75 crore facility approved by the Kerala State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation for receiving skin through skin donation (useful in treatment of burn victims and patients with severe skin injuries) is set for inauguration on July 15 coinciding with the World Plastic Surgery Day, Health Minister Veena George said on Saturday.

# Kerala to launch serological survey amid Nipah outbreak

**Researchers hope to fill knowledge gaps pertaining to virus spillover from bats to humans and recurring outbreaks in northern parts; recent cases mark eighth occurence of Nipah in the State**

**C. Maya**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Nipah virus (NiV) has surfaced in Kerala yet again, making this the eighth appearance in eight years. Whether virus spillovers (single index case, with no secondary cases in the community) or outbreaks (spillover with subsequent cases), Kerala has primed its response to the virus, seamlessly managing early detection, limiting the transmission, and successfully saving lives.

However, in all these encounters with NiV, researchers have identified several missing links or knowledge gaps. These pertain to the exact virus spillover mechanism from bats to humans; the recurrence of the spillover events/outbreaks in a specific geographic belt in northern Kerala; and how exactly human behaviour, land use, and bat ecology interactions are facilitating the virus spillovers.

This study is expected to provide data on virus seroprevalence in high-risk human and animal population areas. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

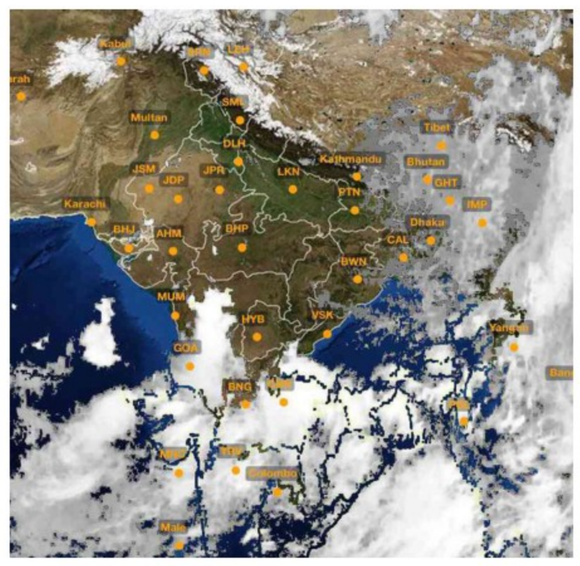
"We have toyed with several hypotheses regarding the spillover mechanism. Are direct spillovers possible in areas near bat colonies, such as through droplet transmission from bat secretions or poop? Can individuals be indulging in high-risk behaviours, such as consuming bat meat (evidence of NiV in internal organs of bats has been reported)," said T.S. Anish, a public health expert who heads the Kerala One Health Centre for Nipah Research and Resilience, Kozhikode.

"We are proposing a pseudovirus neutralisation assay-based serological survey among potential intermediate animal hosts and high-risk human populations in areas of previous NiV spillovers. The proposal is to collect healthy domestic animal blood samples (cattle, pigs, goats, dogs and cats) and human samples from within a few km radius of Nipah hotspots," E. Sreekumar, the Director of IAV, told *The Hindu*.

This study is expected to open the doors to the mystery of NiV disease spillover and transmission pattern in the State.

## WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday




TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

**Forecast for Sunday:** Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh, Delhi, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands

| CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN | CITY | RAIN | MAX | MIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Agartala | — | 33.8 | 26.0 | Kozhikode | 12 | 31.6 | 23.8 |
| Ahmedabad | 1 | 31.5 | 26.5 | Kurnool | 1 | 34.0 | 25.0 |
| Aizawl | 0.2 | 32.9 | 22.0 | Lucknow | 0.2 | 35.9 | 28.0 |
| Allahabad | 7 | 33.8 | 26.4 | Madurai | — | 39.0 | 26.5 |
| Bengaluru | — | 26.7 | 20.5 | Mangaluru | 16.6 | 26.9 | 23.1 |
| Bhopal | 5 | 25.6 | 24.0 | Mumbai | 34 | 30.9 | 25.2 |
| Bhubaneswar | 0.1 | 30.5 | 24.6 | Mysuru | — | 28.8 | 21.0 |
| Chandigarh | 23.7 | 33.8 | 28.3 | New Delhi | — | 37.1 | 27.9 |
| Chennai | 0.7 | 38.8 | 27.5 | Patna | — | 33.7 | 28.2 |
| Coimbatore | — | 31.8 | 21.8 | Port Blair | 6 | 30.4 | 26.3 |
| Dehradun | 0.1 | 27.8 | 25.9 | Puducherry | — | 37.8 | 27.0 |
| Gangtok | 19 | 21.1 | 18.5 | Pune | 4.8 | 29.0 | 24.2 |
| Goa | 19 | 30.8 | 24.8 | Raipur | 15.2 | 29.5 | 23.8 |
| Guwahati | 28 | 31.9 | 25.9 | Ranchi | 0.7 | 28.2 | 23.0 |
| Hubballi | — | 28.0 | 23.0 | Shillong | 5 | 26.2 | 18.5 |
| Hyderabad | 0.4 | 32.4 | 23.2 | Shimla | 36 | 21.6 | 17.1 |
| Imphal | — | 29.2 | 23.1 | Srinagar | — | 37.4 | 24.5 |
| Jaipur | — | 31.0 | 28.0 | Thiruvananthapuram | — | 33.6 | 24.6 |
| Kochi | 16 | 30.6 | 22.8 | Tiruchi | — | 38.5 | 26.5 |
| Kohima | 2 | 22.0 | 19.0 | Vijayawada | 3 | 36.5 | 26.2 |
| Kolkata | 19 | 32.5 | 26.0 | Visakhapatnam | 0.1 | 30.7 | 27.3 |

*(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)*

**Pollutants in the air you are breathing**

| CITIES | $SO_2$ | $NO_2$ | CO | PM2.5 | PM10 | CODE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | .25 | .24 | 32 | 60 | 75 | |
| Bengaluru | .8 | .36 | 33 | 59 | 80 | |
| Chennai | .9 | .17 | 57 | 48 | 62 | |
| Delhi | .12 | .52 | 75 | 104 | 141 | |
| Hyderabad | .10 | .14 | 25 | 73 | 87 | |
| Kolkata | .10 | .48 | 26 | 49 | 55 | |
| Lucknow | .70 | .12 | .8 | 76 | 58 | |
| Mumbai | .37 | .4 | .4 | 62 | 77 | |
| Pune | .— | .51 | 52 | 28 | 58 | |
| Visakhapatnam | .13 | .84 | 27 | 60 | 108 | |

**Yesterday**

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Nandesari, Gujarat recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 190 indicating a moderate level of pollution. In contrast, Aizawl, Mizoram recorded a healthy AQI score of 10

**Air Quality Code:** Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

**$SO_2$:** Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

**$NO_2$:** Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

**CO:** Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

**PM2.5 & PM10:** Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

# Kerala Health Minister must go: Opposition

**The Hindu Bureau**
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The Opposition staged widespread protests across Kerala on Saturday seeking the resignation of Minister for Health Veena George in the wake of the death of a woman in a building collapse at the Government Medical College Hospital, Kottayam.

In the State capital, a sizeable number of Youth Congress activists took out a march to the official residence of the Minister, but were met with police resistance.

The irate activists attempted to push through and scale the barricades erected by the police to keep them at bay. Holding flags, they shouted slogans demanding that the Minister quit. The police used water cannons repeatedly in a bid to disperse the protesters, to no avail.

Protests were also held by the Kerala Students' Union, Mahila Congress, the Youth League, and the Bharatiya Janata Party at other places. Marches were held to offices of district medical officers (DMO) in various districts.

**Clashes turn violent**

In Kannur, a Youth Congress protest march to the office of the DMO turned violent, leading to clashes with the police and traffic disruption.

In Angamaly, Youth Congress activists waved black flag at Minister for Cooperation V.N. Vasavan.

Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan accused the Left Democratic Front (LDF) of gross negligence in the health sector.

Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala said Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan should have at least sought the Health Minister's resignation in view of her "inefficiency".

### *Janaki* title row: HC judge watches film in Kochi

**The Hindu Bureau**
KOCHI

Kerala High Court judge N. Nagaresh arrived at a private film studio at Padamugal in Kochi, on Saturday to watch the Malayalam film *JSK - Janaki v/s State of Kerala* starring Union Minister Suresh Gopi, amidst the demand by the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) to change the movie title as well as the name of the titular character of Janaki, apparently because the name also refers to the goddess Sita.

The court, which is considering a petition by the film's production company Cosmos Entertainments seeking a directive to the CBFC to issue the censor certificate, had stated on July 2 that it was appropriate to watch the movie before arriving at a decision.

The court had earlier termed the CBFC's revising committee seeking a change of the name 'Janaki' in the title and of the protagonist "a challenge to the freedom of creative expression." Justifying the demand for the change of name, the board's counsel had contended that the character Janaki in the film is sexually assaulted.

To this, the counsel for the petitioner argued that the character in the film is "a fighter for justice". He said the CBFC had not cited any problem with 'Janaki' in the title earlier this year when its trailer was released.

The court observed that a good share of names in India are either of gods and goddesses or have similarities with their names. The case has been posted for hearing on July 9.

## *Puri vibes*

**Like home:** Members from the Dongria Kondh tribes of Odisha perform at Visakhapatnam on Saturday during celebrations to mark the return Rath Yatra organised by the Utkal Sanskrutika Samaj on Saturday, coinciding with the Puri chariot procession. K.R DEEPAK

# Ramchander Rao takes charge as TG BJP chief

**The Hindu Bureau**
HYDERABAD

Senior leader and former MLC N. Ramchander Rao has assumed office as Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) Telangana unit president at the party's State headquarters in Hyderabad on Saturday. He claimed that the people of the State are looking towards the party as they were disappointed with the ruling Congress.

Addressing the media after formally taking charge, Mr. Rao said that his top priorities include ensuring the party wins a majority of seats in the upcoming local body elections and strengthening the party from the grassroot level with focus on improving rural base.

"In a brief span of time, the Congress has earned substantial opposition from people due to its non-implementation of the six guarantees and 420 promises," he claimed, adding that not a single promise made in the 2023 [Assembly] election manifesto was fully met by the Congress government.

Accusing the Congress of deceiving people, he urged party activists to wage a 'righteous war' (Dharma Yuddham) against the ruling Congress rule in the State and strive to ensure the BJP attains power in the next general elections.

He also wrote a letter to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, stressing the need to fulfil poll promises.

Referring to All India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge's allegations against the Modi government, made at the 'Social Justice Samara Bheri' meeting held at L.B. Stadium on Friday, Mr. Rao slammed Mr. Kharge, stating that it was the Congress party that had governed the nation for about 55 years and ruined it.

"Instead of addressing the BC issues, Kharge used the meeting just to make allegations against the Modi government," he said. Mr. Rao also suspected the sincerity of the State government in implementing the 42% reservation.

"The Congress government should have consulted legal experts before passing the bills for BC reservations if it was really committed to the welfare and advancement of the BCs," he said, citing legal issues.

# *Honeybee flora park scripts a sweet success story*

**Initially set up to raise awareness of the benefits of beekeeping, the centre has since undergone various phases of development; a farmers' lab to test honey quality is on the cards; the beehives generate a daily revenue of up to ₹25,000**

**Sam Paul A.**
ALAPPUZHA

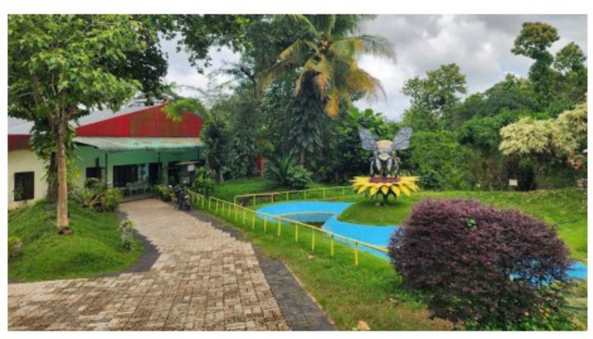
A honeybee flora park (beekeeping centre), under the Kerala State Horticultural Products Development Corporation (Horticorp), at Kallimel, near Mavelikara, is reaching new heights.

Since its inception in 2018, the facility has procured over 50,000 kg of honey from farmers. The collected honey is processed and sold under the brand name Amruth Honey, generating a daily revenue of up to ₹25,000.

The centre, which operates on three acres of land in Thazhakara grama panchayat, functions in three key areas: rearing honeybees and producing honey, procuring honey from farmers for scientific processing and marketing, and providing training to farmers.

The beekeeping centre houses around 200 beehives, primarily used to rear stingless bees and Indian honeybees. These hives alone produce about two tonnes of honey annually.

"The honey produced by farmers is directly procured at government-fixed rates. It is then scientifically processed to ensure quality and sold under the Amruth Honey brand in packs ranging from 50 grams to five kg. The centre also produces value-added honey products, including honey soap," an official said.



As part of its expansion, a museum is planned within the centre capable of attracting tourists. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"Efforts are under way to transform the centre into a honey museum capable of attracting tourists. Approval has been received to set up a laboratory for farmers to test honey quality. Lab construction will begin within two months," said M.S. Arun Kumar, Mavelikara MLA.

More than 1,500 farmers have received training at the centre. Those who complete the training are eligible to get beehives and related equipment at 40% subsidy through Central and State government schemes.

# Sigachi factory blast toll rises to 39 as one more worker dies

**Naveen Kumar**
HYDERABAD

The death toll in the Sigachi Industries blast in Sangareddy district in Telangana has risen to 39, after one of the workers succumbed to injuries on Friday night. As of Saturday evening, officials confirmed that 30 pieces of human remains have been recovered from the site, days after the explosion, which left over 30 others injured.

Body fragments are being sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) in Hyderabad for DNA analysis to establish identity. Patancheru Government Hospital Superintendent (SP) Srinivas Reddy said that of the 24 DNA samples collected so far, 22 bodies have been identified and handed over to their families.

The process of sending the bodies is being conducted with full police escort, with two constables accompanying each body in an ambulance to the native place, including in Bihar, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh, said Mr. Pankaj.

Search operations are still under way.

From Page One

## Nehal Modi, co-accused in PNB case, held in U.S.

The ED had earlier found that Mr. Nehal Modi allegedly managed two companies for his half-brother. These enterprises received $50 million from dummy entities. After the scam was detected, Mr. Nehal Modi took away from Hong Kong $6 million worth of diamonds, and 150 boxes of pearls; UAE dirham 3.5 million; and 50 kg of gold from the Firestar Diamond FZE (Free Zone Establishment) in Dubai. He also destroyed digital evidence in the form of mobile phones, and a server used for internal communications in Dubai, it was alleged. "Nehal Modi was personally overseeing that all the accounts and records were eliminated. He intimidated the witnesses and sent them to Cairo, where their passports were taken away at his instance to prevent their escape. The witnesses were forced to sign forged papers. In one case, he had offered ₹20 lakh to a witness for giving false testimony before the judicial authorities in Europe," the official said.

In March 2021, probe agencies submitted before a special court in Mumbai that a joint extradition request had been sent to the U.S. In another case against his uncle Mehul Choksi and others, Mr. Nehal Modi has been accused of being in charge of Samuels Jewellers Inc. and Diamlink Inc., which received $19 million from Mr. Mehul Choksi's Dubai-based shell companies.

## India, Trinidad, Tobago ink deals on pharma

India has also gifted 20 hemodialysis units and two sea ambulances to Trinidad and Tobago that will help in providing healthcare services to the island nation. India has also extended help to train the Hindu religious priests (Pandits) of Trinidad and Tobago and the Caribbean region.

"Prime Minister expressed appreciation for T&T's strong support and solidarity extended to the people of India in the wake of Pahalgam terror attack. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to fight terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. They agreed to work together for greater solidarity among the countries of the Global South and to strengthen India-CARICOM partnership," said the MEA after Prime Minister Modi held an official discussion with Ms. Kamla Persad-Bissessar on Friday.

*(With PTI inputs)*

## Industrialist Gopal Khemka shot dead

A well-known industrialist, Khemka was also the owner of Magadh hospital and a number of petrol pumps. His murder comes a few years after his son Gunjan Khemka was shot dead by criminals in the Hajipur industrial area of Vaishali district.

Patna SSP Kartikey Sharma has formed a special task force team to nab the criminals. Patna IG Jitendra Rana visited the spot on Saturday along with a police team, and said that strict action would also be taken against the police personnel who failed to respond on time.

# Bihar witnessing 'goonda raj' under NDA: Congress

Congress seeks a special Assembly session to discuss law and order situation after the killing of Patna businessman Gopal Khemka; there is hardly any district without daily murders, party says

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The killing of Patna businessman Gopal Khemka is proof that Bihar is witnessing "goonda raj" under the National Democratic Alliance regime, the Congress alleged on Saturday, as it demanded a special session of the State Assembly to discuss the breakdown of law and order.

**Voicing concerns:** Akhilesh Prasad Singh addressing a press conference at Indira Bhawan on Saturday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

The special session must also discuss the special intensive revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls ahead of the upcoming Bihar Assembly election, the Congress said, alleging that the ongoing exercise is a "deliberate conspiracy" to help the BJP win power in the State.

"It is humanly impossible to carry out this exercise among eight crore voters of the State," Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member Akhilesh Prasad Singh said, addressing a press conference at the All India Congress Committee (AICC) headquarters.

Mr. Singh claimed that the people of the State have been left to the mercy of God, while "Chief Minister Nitish Kumar has become a puppet in the hands of the BJP".

### Criminal impunity

The Congress MP said that Mr. Khemka, the owner of Magadh Hospital, had been shot dead by criminals near his home in Patna on Friday night, a few years after the murder of his son. The crime took place near Gandhi Maidan despite the police presence there, Mr. Singh said.

Referring to the killing of three people in Siwan three days ago, Mr. Singh said that there is hardly any district in Bihar where murders are not a daily occurrence.

He added that while the ADG (Law and Order) himself admits that rising attacks on police are a serious concern, the criminals who dared to open fire at Opposition leader Tejashwi Yadav's official residence are still at large.

"The government has left the people of Bihar to fend for themselves. The State is currently passing through a crisis, for which we should exert pressure on the government to convene a session of the Legislative Assembly on the issue of the 'goonda raj'. Bihar, once known as a land of peace, harmony, and knowledge, is now burning in the fire of gun violence and criminality," Mr. Singh said.

Citing official data, the Congress leader claimed that a large number of minor girls are being raped and policemen are being murdered.

"In Patna alone, this year, there have been 116 murders and 41 rape incidents," he claimed. "Last year, data released by the police headquarters stated that in 151 days, there were 1,297 attacks on the police," he added.

Quoting the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB), Mr. Singh said that the total number of crimes in Bihar rose from 1,60,664 in 2005 to 3,47,835 in 2022. "This means there has been a 323% increase in this number. In terms of murders, Bihar ranks second after Uttar Pradesh," the Congress leader said.

"In Bihar, 2,21,729 women have fallen victim to crime, and there has been a 336% increase in crimes against women. There has been a 1,097% increase in cases of abduction of women, and a horrific 7,062% increase in crimes against children," he added.

# India is fourth 'most equal' country, says World Bank report

**Press Trust of India**
NEW DELHI

India falls into the 'moderately low' inequality category, as per the World Bank's report.

Inequality in India has come down significantly between 2011-12 and 2022-23, making it the fourth-most equal country globally, according to a World Bank report.

This is in addition to a sharp decrease in extreme poverty, which has dropped from 16.2% in 2011-12 to 2.3% in 2022-23, an official release said quoting World Bank data.

The government attributed the reduction in inequality to various initiatives and schemes pursued during the last decade.

The only three countries which have a better Gini Index score, a measure of equality, are the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Belarus.

"...India's Gini Index stands at 25.5, making it the fourth most equal country in the world, after the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Belarus," the statement said.

### Income distribution

The Gini Index helps in understanding how equally income, wealth or consumption is distributed across households or individuals in a country.

It ranges in value from zero to 100. A score of zero means perfect equality, while a score of 100 means one person has all the income, wealth or consumption and others have none, hence absolute inequality.

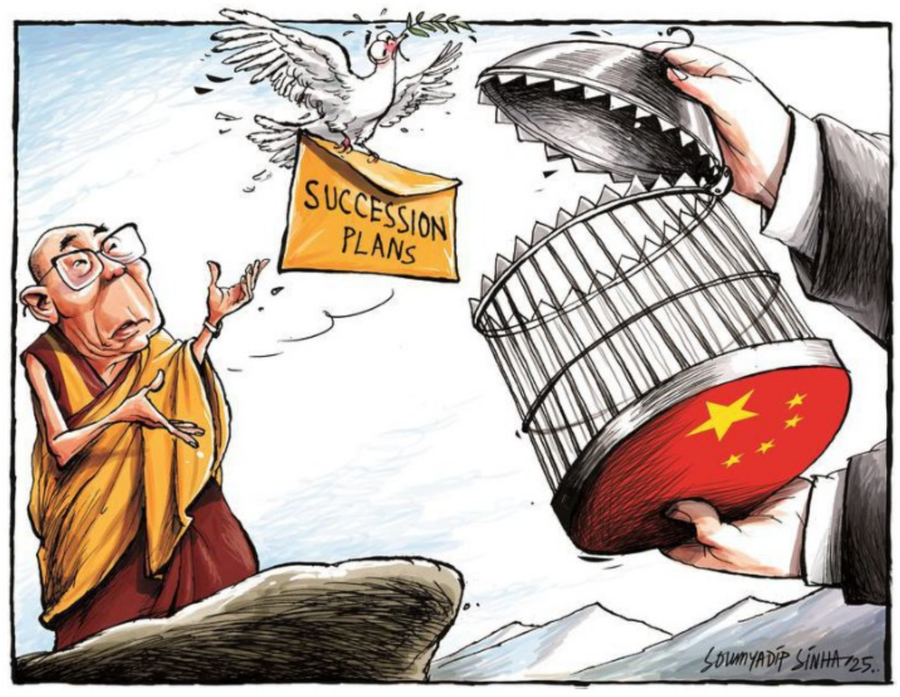
The higher the Gini Index, the more unequal a country is.

India's score is much lower than China's 35.7 and far lower than the United States, which stands at 41.8.

As per the World Bank's report, which has released the data for 167 countries, India falls into the "moderately low" inequality category, which includes Gini scores between 25 and 30.

India is only a fraction away from joining the "low inequality" group.

## *On the draw*




# U.K.-based arms consultant Sanjay Bhandari declared a fugitive economic offender

**The Hindu**
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Saturday declared U.K.-based arms consultant Sanjay Bhandari, wanted on charges of tax evasion and money laundering, a fugitive economic offender.

Additional sessions judge Sanjeev Aggarwal of the Tis Hazari court issued the order for declaring Mr. Bhandari a fugitive under provisions of the Fugitive Economic Offenders Act (FEOA) of 2018.

Sanjay Bhandari

The order came on an application moved by the ED, which is probing the money laundering charges against him and others. This will now enable the agency to confiscate the assets owned by Mr. Bhandari, the worth of which runs into several crores.

The ED last month had apprised the court of the U.K. court denying the extradition of Mr. Bhandari, 63, to India, citing the unsafe conditions inside the Tihar Jail in Delhi. According to the ED, he fled to London in 2016 soon after the Income Tax department raided him in Delhi due to tax evasion.

# Three Kerala districts on high alert over Nipah; 425 people under observation

**The Hindu Bureau**
PALAKKAD/MALAPPURAM

Kerala Health Minister Veena George during an online meeting with Palakkad district officials on Friday evening. SPECIAL ARRENGEMENT

As many as 425 people have entered the contact lists of two Nipah-infected persons in Kerala – 228 of them in Malappuram, 110 in Palakkad, and 87 in Kozhikode.

The health machinery across these districts have been put on high alert as the Health Department is battling to prevent the spread of the virus. While an adolescent girl from Makkaraparamba near Malappuram died on July 1, a 38-year-old woman from Thachanattukara in Palakkad is battling for life at Moulana Hospital in Perinthalmanna.

Twelve persons are currently undergoing treatment in Malappuram – five of them in intensive care unit. However, one of them tested negative for the infection. The results of the others are awaited.

In Palakkad, one person who came into contact with the infected woman is being treated in isolation. Of the 110 people on the contact list in Palakkad, 61 are health workers. In Kozhikode, all 87 on the list are health workers.

The Health Department will soon begin a fever survey of houses within a 3-km radius of the infected persons' houses. Health Minister Veena George on Saturday said that psychological aid should be given to those on the contact lists. Officials have intensified efforts to find the source of the Nipah virus that infected the two persons. Health officials began a surveillance in 20 wards of Makkaraparamba, Kuruva, Koottilangadi and Mankada panchayats in Malappuram district, and six wards of Thachanattukara and Karimpuzha panchayats in Palakkad district. Sixty-five teams of health officials visited 1,655 houses in Malappuram. They found none with the symptoms of the infection. People were advised to remain cautious. Deputy district medical officer N.N. Pameeli, technical assistants C.K. Suresh Kumar and M. Shahul Hameed, and epidemiologist D. Kiran Raj led the survey.

A 10-year-old boy, a relative of the Nipah-infected woman at Thachanattukara, was hospitalised with high fever. Doctors said they were closely monitoring his condition.

# Supreme Court introduces quota for OBCs, SCs and STs in direct staff recruitments

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has notified amendments in its staff recruitment rules to introduce reservation for the Other Backward Classes (OBCs), along with the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs).

In a reform of a sweeping nature, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai, who is only the second Dalit top judge of the country, also extended the benefit of reservation in the court's non-judicial staff jobs to the physically challenged, ex-servicemen, and dependents of freedom fighters.

The decision of the Chief Justice to amend Rule 4A of the Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961, was exercised under Article 146(2) of the Constitution.

The notification issued in the Official Gazette on Thursday clarified that the reservation in direct staff recruitments to the top court would follow the rules, orders and notifications issued by the Centre.

"Reservation in direct recruitment to various categories of posts specified in the schedule, for the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, physically challenged, ex-servicemen and dependent of freedom fighters shall be in accordance with the rules, orders, and notifications issued from time to time by the Government of India in respect of posts carrying the pay scale corresponding to the pay scale prescribed for the post specified in the schedule, subject to such modification, variation or exception as the Chief Justice may, from time to time, specify," the notification read.

Rajya Sabha member and senior advocate P. Wilson, who had pushed for OBC reservation in staff recruitments to the apex court, said in a social media post that the amendment of Rule 4A "ensured alignment with national standards of affirmative action". He termed the amendment a "historic reform".

However, the reservation for the OBCs in its staff recruitments comes over 33 years after a nine-judge Bench of the Supreme Court in the *Indira Sawhney* judgment of November 1992 validated 27% reservation for the category in Central government services.

Chief Justice Gavai took the initiative to introduce a roster system to recruit candidates from the SCs and STs as Supreme Court staff. The move comes three decades after the court itself had declared in a Constitution Bench judgment in the *RK Sabharwal* case that a 200-point roster system would ensure equitable distribution of jobs between the general and reserved categories.

# Congress tried only to revive AJL, Rahul's counsel tells court

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

AJL was never a commercial institution, says senior advocate R.S. Cheema. PTI

The intention of the All India Congress Committee (AICC) was not to sell the assets of Associated Journals Limited (AJL) but to save this historic institution, Senior Advocate R.S. Cheema submitted in the court on Saturday. Advocate Cheema was representing the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, who was an accused in the *National Herald* money laundering case being probed by the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

The case stemmed from the assignment of a ₹90 crore loan advanced by the Congress party to AJL, the publisher of *National Herald*, to Young Indian for a consideration of ₹50 lakh. It was alleged that there was misappropriation of assets of over ₹2,000 crore in an equity transaction.

The matter was raised by senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, who alleged criminal conspiracy by several politicians, including Congress leaders Sonia Gandhi, Mr. Rahul Gandhi, the late Motilal Vohra, the late Oscar Fernandes, Suman Dubey, Sam Pitroda, and Young Indian Pvt Ltd.

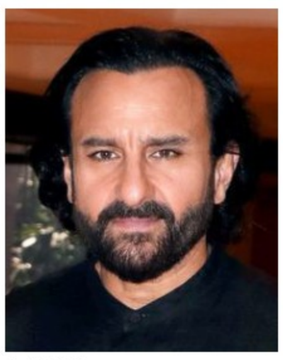
Mr. Gandhi's counsel rebutted the charges framed by the ED.

Mr. Cheema said that AJL did not have profits since its formation, and it was never a commercial institution. Stating that the AICC was trying to retrieve an institution which was part of the freedom movement heritage, he asserted that the problem was not recovering the loan (given to AJL) but the problem was to revive it, to see that it came back on the rails.

*(With inputs from PTI)*

# HC quashes order in property case involving actor Saif

**The Hindu Bureau**
BHOPAL


Saif Ali Khan

The Madhya Pradesh High Court has set aside a 25-year-old order of a lower court that had upheld the ownership of actor Saif Ali Khan and his family over properties worth thousands of crores inherited from the erstwhile rulers of Bhopal, and ordered a retrial of the matter.

In an order dated June 30, a single Bench of Justice Sanjay Dwivedi set aside the judgment while asking the district court to decide the matter afresh expeditiously, preferably within a year.

The matter pertains to a ownership dispute among the descendants of the last ruler of the princely state of Bhopal, Nawab Hamidullah Khan, who had three daughters – Abida Sultan, Sajida Sultan and Rabia Sultan – by his first wife, Maimoona Sultan. While Abida migrated to Pakistan, Sajida married Iftikhar Ali Khan Pataudi. Their son, Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, former Indian cricket team captain, married actor Sharmila Tagore. The 2000 order of the trial court had declared the ownership of Ms. Tagore, her son, Mr. Saif, and her two daughters, Soha and Saba Ali Khan.

**Separate pleas**

The order, however, was challenged by Begum Suraiya Rashid, granddaughter of Hamidullah Khan's elder brother Obaidullah Khan, and Rabia Sultan through separate petitions in the High Court. They claimed that after Hamidullah Khan's death in 1960, the properties should have been divided among the petitioners and the defendants – the Pataudi family as per the Muslim Personal Law.

They also challenged a 1962 order of the Union government that recognised Sajida Sultan, who was declared the Nawab of Bhopal after her father's death, as the sole successor of the properties.

# Over 1 crore voters submit enumeration forms in Bihar

Over 93% forms distributed to voters for electoral roll revision; Rabri Devi says Centre, State trying to snatch voting rights, and appeals to people not to show any document except voter ID to staff

**Amit Bhelari**
PATNA

Voters in Vaishali district show the enumeration forms during the ongoing special intensive revision of electoral rolls in Bihar. PTI

The Election Commission (EC) on Saturday said that the special intensive revision (SIR) was under way in full swing in Bihar. Booth-level officers (BLOs) and supervisors, election officials, agents appointed by the political parties and volunteers were working tirelessly at the grassroots level to ensure that no eligible elector was left out, it said.

A press statement issued by EC Deputy Director P. Pawan said that as of 6 p.m. on Saturday, enumeration forms were received from 1,04,16,545 electors – 13.19% of the 7,89,69,844 electors enrolled as on June 24.

The last date for submission of forms is July 26.

The percentage of the forms distributed has gone up to 93.57%, with 7,38,89,333 forms issued already.

Mr. Pawan said 77,895 BLOs were going house-to-house to help the electors fill the enumeration forms and collect them.

In a large number of cases, the BLOs were taking photographs of the electors and uploading them, saving the electors the trouble of getting their pictures clicked.

**Available for download**

Mr. Pawan said the partially filled forms were available for download on the EC portal and on the ECINET app.

Filled forms could be uploaded by the elector on the ECINET App.

Additionally, 20,603 BLOs were being appointed for the smooth and timely completion of the process. Nearly four lakh volunteers which included government officials, NCC cadets, and NSS members, were working in the field to help the elderly, persons with disabilities, and sick and vulnerable populations.

Besides, 239 electoral registration officers (EROs), 963 AEROs, 38 district electoral officers (DEOs) and the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of the State are involved in the SIR process. As many as 1,54,977 booth-level agents (BLAs) appointed by various political parties were providing active support.

Bihar Chief Electoral Officer Vinod Singh Gunjiyal said the work was progressing at a rapid pace in Bihar.

Commending the booth-level officers on their work to make the campaign successful, he announced an additional honorarium of ₹6,000 for them.

"In the light of the instructions of the Election Commission of India, remarkable work is being done by the polling station officials to reach every voter and not let any eligible person be left out of the voter list. This additional honorarium will further boost their morale," Mr. Gunjiyal said.

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader and former Chief Minister Rabri Devi on Saturday appealed to the voters not to show any documents other than the voter identity card when poll officials visited their house for electoral roll revision.

Speaking at the party's national council meeting, the senior RJD leader said both the Union and State governments had put the country on sale, and now they were up against the poor and deprived to snatch their voting rights.

**At the helm:** Former Union Minister Lalu Prasad being felicitated on being re-elected RJD chief in Patna on Saturday. ANI

# Survey on to select candidates for polls, says RJD president

**The Hindu Bureau**
PATNA

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo Lalu Prasad on Saturday said that a survey was under way to select suitable party candidates for the Assembly election in Bihar.

He made the announcement during a meeting of the party's national council held at Gyan Bhavan in Patna. At the gathering, Mr. Prasad was officially declared and re-elected national president of the party unopposed for the 13th time.

"The candidates' names will be finalised after consultation with Tejashwi Yadav who is working hard to strengthen the party at the grassroots level," Mr. Prasad said. Praising his son, the former Chief Minister further said, "I keep getting feedback about the party's activities from him. Sometimes I don't know when he is out of town and I come to know about his visits to various places the day he returns."

Urging followers to work hard at the ground level, he asked them to ensure that his son became the Chief Minister of Bihar. Mr. Prasad heaped praise on his wife, Rabri Devi, who was sitting next to him.

Many senior leaders of the party, including State president Mangani Lal Mandal, Shivanand Tiwari and Sanjay Yadav were present in the national council meeting.

# NGO moves SC against poll roll revision in Bihar

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**
NEW DELHI

The Election Commission's move to conduct a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound Bihar came under challenge in the Supreme Court on Saturday for violating the rights to adult suffrage, non-discrimination, dignity and equality of the ordinary and marginalised people of the State.

The petition filed by an NGO, Association for Democratic Reforms, represented by advocates Prashant Bhushan and Neha Rathi, contended that the SIR communication from the EC on June 24 breach the provisions of the Representation of the People's Act, 1950 and Rule 21A of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.

The SIR order, if not set aside, can arbitrarily and without due process disenfranchise lakhs of voters from electing their representatives, thereby disrupting free and fair elections and democracy in the country, which are part of the Basic Structure of the Constitution, the plea said.

Activist Yogendra Yadav has separately moved the court against the exercise.

# Questions swirl around poll officers' powers to flag citizenship issues

**Vijaita Singh**
**Sreeparna Chakrabarty**
NEW DELHI

The EC guidelines allow electoral registration officers to report cases of suspected foreigners to a 'competent authority'. ANI

As Bihar becomes the first State, at least since 2004, to go for an intensive overhaul of electoral rolls months before the Assembly election, questions swirl around the powers of electoral registration officers (ERO) to report cases of suspected foreign nationals to a "competent authority".

The Election Commission (EC) guidelines on special intensive revision (SIR) for Bihar issued on June 24 does not specify the methodology to be followed by an electoral registration officer (ERO) to flag the case of a suspected foreigner to a "competent authority".

Any one of the 11 documents, which include birth certificates, passports, caste certificates, school leaving certificates, pension documents, and a self-declaration form, has been made compulsory to prove the date of birth "and/or place of birth".

The guidelines said, "Also, EROs will refer cases of suspected foreign nationals to the competent authority under the Citizenship Act, 1955." "...For these purposes, AERO (assistant electoral registration officer) shall exercise ERO's powers independently u/s 13C(2) of the Representation of the People Act (RPA), 1950," it added.

**No checklist**

Asked if there is a checklist to determine the citizenship of electors, a subject that comes under the purview of the Union Home Ministry, a senior EC official told *The Hindu*, "This call will be taken by the ERO concerned. No specific list [has been provided]. Different places have different systems."

To be included in the electoral rolls, nearly 2.93 crore people are expected to furnish the details. During the 2024 Lok Sabha election, Bihar had 7.9 crore voters. Of this, 4.96 crore voters who were there in the 2003 revision list need not submit the details, the EC said.

Under the Citizenship Act, 1955, only the Home Ministry has the authority to decide on citizenship issues. Periodically and through different orders, the Ministry delegates the power to detect, detain or deport foreign nationals who are either undocumented or staying illegally, to State authorities, which may include the police or the district commissioners. The latest manual of the EC, issued in March 2023, mandated EROs to flag citizenship cases.

The Opposition has termed Bihar's SIR exercise an attempt to compile the National Register of Citizens (NRC) through the backdoor. The NRC was opposed by several political parties as it had the potential to strip people of citizenship if they failed to produce documents.

Jagdeep Chhokar of the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), a non-profit that moved the Supreme Court against the EC on Saturday, said, "The EC has taken upon itself the implementation of the Citizenship Act. The exercise is based on presumption of citizenship to those who were part of the 2003 electoral rolls while others have to prove date of birth and/or place of birth."

**'Not exhaustive'**

Former Chief Election Commissioner O.P. Rawat said the powers of the ERO regarding deciding the citizenship of a person for inclusion in voter list have been existing under the provisions of the RPA, 1950. He also said that even in 2003, SIR documents were sought from voters to prove citizenship. Mr. Rawat though added that the list of 11 documents sought by the EC are indicative and not exhaustive, and the ERO can satisfy himself with any other document furnished.

# PM will 'meekly bow' to U.S. President's tariff deadline: Rahul

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI

Rahul Gandhi

Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the date set by U.S. President Donald Trump for his tariff regime to come into effect under a new Indo-U.S. trade agreement, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said Mr. Modi would "meekly bow" to the July 9 deadline.

Mr. Gandhi's statement comes a day after Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal claimed that India would not enter into any agreement under deadlines. "Piyush Goyal can beat his chest all he wants, mark my words, Modi will meekly bow to the Trump tariff deadline," Mr. Gandhi said in a post on X.

The Congress has been targeting Mr. Modi for remaining silent and not countering Mr. Trump's repeated claims that he used the threat of suspending trade to bring a halt to hostilities between India and Pakistan after the Pahalgam terror attack.

India would accept the proposed trade deal with the U.S. only when it was fully finalised, and in the national interest, Mr. Goyal had said on Friday. Free Trade Agreements were possible only when both sides benefit and evolve a win-win agreement, the Minister had said.

# My father was a powerful voice of poor, says Chirag

**The Hindu Bureau**
PATNA

Union Minister and Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) leader Chirag Paswan on Saturday remembered his father, Ram Vilas Paswan, on his birth anniversary as a man who was the powerful voice of the poor and deprived people.

The party workers paid tributes, and recalled Ram Vilas Paswan as a leader who struggled an entire lifetime for the creation of an egalitarian society.

"This day has been like a festival for us, and today is also Sankalp Divas (day of resolve) for every leader and worker of the party to work towards social justice, making Bihar a developed State, and integrating the deprived sections of society into the mainstream, bringing his ideas to reality," Mr. Chirag said.

राजस्थान सरकार
**कार्यालय मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, राजसमन्द**
(जिला स्वास्थ्य समिति, राजसमंद)

निविदा कमांक मु.चि.अ()/डीएचएस/लेखा/2025/2777 दिनांक-20/06/2025

**आयुष्मान आरोग्य मंन्दिर में मानव संसाधन हेतु निविदा**
**ई-निविदा सूचना : 02/2025-26**

मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी, राजसमन्द में आयुष्मान आरोग्य मंन्दिर हेतु वित्तीय वर्ष 2025-26 तक एव राज0 लोक उपापन परदर्शिता अधिनियम 2012 एवं राज0 उपापन नियम 2013 के नियमानुसार जॉब बेसिस पर मानव संसाधन उपलब्ध कराये जाने हेतु इच्छुक श्रम आपूर्तिकर्ताओं / स्वयं सहायता समूहो / संवेदक एजेंसी से निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

| क्र. सं. | नाम कार्य | अनुमानित लागत | निविदा शुल्क | Sppp/Eproc पोर्टल एवं कार्यालय से निविदा प्रपत्र बिड इत्यादि प्राप्त करने की तिथि | RISL शुल्क | तकनीकी निविदा खोलने की तिथि | कार्यकारी एजेंसी | UBN No. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | आयुष्मान आरोग्य मंन्दिर में मानव संसाधन हेतु | 195 लाख | 1000/- | 20 जून 2025 | 2000/- | 14 जुलाई 2025 | मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी राजसमन्द | MHS2526 SLOBO2136 |

1. निविदा की विस्तृत सूचना एवं शर्तें कार्यालय के नोटिस बोर्ड www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in पर उपलब्ध है।

मुख्य चिकित्सा एवं स्वास्थ्य अधिकारी
राजसमन्द

DIPR/C/8703/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE, BOLANGIR.**
**e - Procurement NOTICE**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Name of Work | : | Construction of H.L Bridge over Nibruti Jore at 0.80 k.m on Chhemtala to Atarda PS road in the district of Bolangir under SBY for the year 2024-25 |
| 2. | No. of Work | : | 1 (One) work. |
| 3. | Time for Completion | : | 18 (Eighteen) Calendar months |
| 4. | Approximate Estimated Cost | : | Rs.598.92 lakhs |
| 5. | Mode of Submission of tender | : | Tender should be submitted online in www.tendersodisha.gov.in |
| 6. | Other details are as follow | | |

| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From | Availability of Tender on-line for bidding To | Last Date & Time of seeking tender clarification | Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid | Date & Time of opening of tender: Financial Bid |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Bolangir. | BLGR-Online-05/2025-26 | 08.07.2025 at 11.00 A.M. | 23.07.2025 upto 5.00 P.M. | 22.07.2025 upto 5.00 P.M. | 24.07.2025 at 11.00 A.M. | The date will be intimated later on |

- Further details can be seen from the website www.tendersodisha.gov.in
- Any Corrigendum/Addendum will be displayed in the above e tender website only.

**Chief Construction Engineer, R.W.Circle, Bolangir**
O-353 : OIPR-25118/11/0037/2526

**ODISHA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION LIMITED**
BHUBANESWAR, ODISHA, PIN:751012, Tel No.(0674) 2562020,
e-Mail: theocltd@odishaconstruction.com
GSTIN - 21AAACO2571K2ZM
**"e"-Procurement Notice No. 17 /OCCL/2025-26 (on-line)**

On-line Item rate tenders are invited for the following works;

| Sl No. | Name of Work | Bid Identification No. | Approx. Value of work | Bid Security (through on-line transfer only) (in Rs.) | Period of Completion (in days) | Availability & Submission of tender of Tender (on-line) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | TANK IMPROVEMENT/ RENOVATION/ MODERNISATION WORKS OF 05 (five) Nos of Minor Irrigation Projects in Keonjhar District (CLUSTER-VI) under OIIPCRA Scheme. | OCCL_TSI_CL_VI_01/2025-26 | Rs.8.18 Crore | Rs.8,18,000/- | 510 days | From 10/07/2025, 10.00 Hrs to 08/08/2025, 15.00 Hrs. |
| 2 | TANK IMPROVEMENT / RENOVATION/ MODERNISATION WORKS OF 12 (twelve) Nos of Minor Irrigation Projects in Kalahandi & Bargarh District (CLUSTER-VII) Under OIIPCRA Scheme | OCCL_TSI_CL_VII_01/2025-26 | Rs.3.93 Crore | Rs.3,93,000/- | 510 days | From 10/07/2025, 10.00 Hrs to 08/08/2025, 15.00 Hrs. |
| 3 | TANK IMPROVEMENT/ RENOVATION/ MODERNISATION WORKS OF 10 (ten) Nos of Minor Irrigation Projects in Mayurbhanj District (CLUSTER-VIII) under OIIPCRA Scheme | OCCL_TSI_CL_VIII_01/2025-26 | Rs.8.56 Crore | Rs.8,56,000/- | 510 days | From 10/07/2025, 10.00 Hrs to 08/08/2025, 15.00 Hrs. |
| 4 | TANK IMPROVEMENT/ RENOVATION/ MODERNISATION WORKS OF 2 (two) Nos of Minor Irrigation Projects in Keonjhar Districts (CLUSTER-IX) under OIIPCRA Scheme | OCCL_TSI_CL_IX_01/2025-26 | Rs.11.33 Crore | Rs.11,33,000/- | 510 days | From 10/07/2025, 10.00 Hrs to 08/08/2025, 15.00 Hrs. |

Procurement Officer : Managing Director, OCCL
Date of Opening of the Tender : 08.08.2025, 15.30 Hrs. onwards
Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal : https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in https://octdms.in https://odishaconstruction.com

**MANAGING DIRECTOR**
CAD-979 OIPR-34120/11/0037/2526

**भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान भोपाल**
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BHOPAL**
संस्थान निर्माण विभाग, भोपाल बायपास रोड, भौरी भोपाल –४६२०६६ (मध्य–प्रदेश)
Institute Works Department, Bhopal By-pass Road, Bhauri Bhopal-462066 (Madhya Pradesh)

**NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER**

The Superintending Engineer, Institute Works Department, IISER Bhopal on behalf of the Board of Governors invites online percentage rate tenders from CPWD enlisted contractors of appropriate class and other eligible firms / contractors of repute in two envelopes system for the following work:

| Sl. No. | NIT No. & Date | Name of work | Estimate cost | Earnest Money | Period |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | IWD/SE/NIT/2025-26/36 dated 04.07.2025 | Comprehensive annual maintenance contract of AC plant installed in Academic Building-2 at IISER Bhopal for three years. | Rs.50,13,260/- | Rs.1,00,266/- | 36 Months |
| 2. | IWD/SE/NIT/2025-26/37 dated 04.07.2025 | Comprehensive maintenance of fire alarm system installed in various buildings at IISER Bhopal for three years. | Rs.26,20,641/- | Rs.52,413/- | 36 Months |
| 3. | IWD/SE/NIT/2025-26/38 dated 04.07.2025 | Lighting arrangement for staircase and road near air monitoring lab on hilltop area at IISER Bhopal. | Rs.9,58,033/- | Rs.19,161/- | 01 Month |

The bids forms and other details for application can be obtained from the website www.eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app. The press notice is also available in Institute website www.iiserb.ac.in and website www.eprocure.gov.in.

## INBRIEF

### Four dead after portion of coal mine collapses in Jharkhand

Four people were killed and four injured after part of an abandoned coal mine collapsed during "illegal" mining in Jharkhand's Ramgarh district in the early hours of Saturday, an official said. The incident happened at the Karma project in Mahua Tangri in Kuju Outpost area. The relief and rescue operation has been called off after the debris was removed, a police officer said. "There is no possibility of any person being trapped inside as the debris has been removed," Ramgarh's SDPO Parmeshwar Prasad said. SP Ajay Kumar said the abandoned mine belonged to Central Coalfields Ltd.

### Man joins hearing from toilet, slapped with contempt action

The Gujarat High Court has taken *suo motu* contempt action against a man who attended a virtual court hearing while sitting on a toilet seat, an incident that sparked outrage after a video of it went viral on social media. The incident occurred on June 20 during a hearing before Justice Nirzar S. Desai. A Division Bench of Justices A.S. Supehia and R.T. Vachhani, in an order dated June 30, directed the High Court registry to register contempt proceedings against the individual in the video. The Bench instructed the Registrar of Information and Technology to devise a mechanism to prevent such misconduct during livestreamed proceedings

### Mob beats man to death over minor accident in Rajasthan

Communal tension gripped Jahazpur town in Rajasthan's Bhilwara district on Saturday after a 25-year-old man, Sitaram Keer, was allegedly beaten to death following a minor road accident. The victim's car hit a roadside vegetable cart in the market, after which a crowd gathered at the spot and thrashed him. The police have arrested the main accused, Shareef Mohammed, and detained another suspect after registering a murder case against 16 named and 20 unidentified persons. Meanwhile, the local administration has withdrawn its permission to take out Muharram procession in the town on Sunday, citing law and order concerns

### Advocate withdraws consent for appointment as HC judge

An advocate has withdrawn her consent for appointment as a judge of the Delhi High Court after the Union government kept the Supreme Court Collegium's recommendation of her name pending for nearly a year. Advocate Shwetasree Majumdar's name was recommended by the Collegium on August 21 last year, along with the names of two other lawyers, to the Centre for their appointment as Delhi High Court judges. The two others were Ajay Digpaul and Harish Vaidyanathan Shankar. While the Centre cleared their appointments on January 6, 2025, Ms. Majumdar's name was left pending without any reasons being assigned. PTI

## SUDOKU

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Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

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| 8 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
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# Amit Shah lays foundation for India's first co-op university

Launching a CBSE course on co-ops, Minister urges Gujarat government to include it as a subject from Classes 9 to 12 in State Board schools as well; university will train professionals for co-ops

**Abhinay Deshpande**
MUMBAI

Union Minister of Cooperation and Home Affairs Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for India's first national cooperative university on Saturday, even while advocating for the inclusion of cooperative education at an earlier stage, in the secondary school curricula.

Addressing a gathering of farmers, cooperators, and officials at the ceremony in Gujarat's Anand – home of Amul, one of India's biggest and best known cooperatives – Mr. Shah emphasised the Tribhuvan Sahkari University's proposed role in fulfilling Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to strengthen the cooperative sector.

"As envisioned by PM Modi, Tribhuvan Sahkari University will meet the need for trained professionals in cooperatives, bring transparency, foster innovation, and provide technical education in areas such as accounting, marketing, and cooperative values – ensuring expertise alongside a spirit of service to the poor," he said.

Amit Shah lights a ceremonial lamp during the foundation stone laying ceremony of Tribhuvan Sahkari University. ANI

**High school subject**

Launching a special course on cooperatives by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), the Minister called for similar courses to be started by the State government as well.

"CBSE has started adding cooperatives to the syllabus. [Gujarat] Chief Minister Bhupendra Bhai Patel, the Vidhan Sabha Speaker, and the Education Minister, all three are present here. I request that just like CBSE, even the Gujarat government should add cooperatives as a subject in the curriculum in books for Classes 9 to 12. The Gujarat government should also add cooperatives as a subject in its curriculum so that common people know the importance of cooperatives," Mr. Shah said. The university has been named after Tribhuvandas Kishibhai Patel, a pioneer of the cooperative movement in India and a key figure behind the foundation of Amul. Mr. Shah recalled how the cooperative movement that began in 1946 under Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's guidance has now grown into an ₹80,000 crore enterprise involving 36 lakh women.

The university will offer specialised courses in cooperative management, finance, law, and rural development.

# Ex-UGC chief, godman, govt. officials among accused in medical scam

**The Hindu Bureau**
NEW DELHI/BHOPAL

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has booked several educationalists, officials of the Union Health Ministry and the National Health Authority, members of the National Medical Commission (NMC) inspection teams and a godman head of an institution for alleged conspiracy to sabotage the inspection process for various private medical colleges in several States.

Among those named in the case are D.P. Singh, former Chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and current Chancellor of Tata Institute of Social Studies (Mumbai); Shri Rawatpura Sarkar Institute of Medical Sciences and Research (SRSIMSR), Raipur in Chhattisgarh, and its head Ravi Shankar Ji Maharaj; Mayur Raval, registrar of Geetanjali University, Udaipur, Rajasthan; and Suresh Singh Bhadoria, chairman of Index Medical College, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

According tothe CBI, Health Ministry officials and members of NMC inspection teams were engaged in corrupt practices.

Jitu Lal Meena, then whole-time member of the Medical Assessment and Rating Board and Joint Director of the National Health Authority; and Health Ministry officials Poonam Meena, Dharamvir, Piyush Malyan, Anup Jaswal, Rahul Srivastava, Chandan Kumar, Deepak, and Manisha have been named.

NMC team members Chitra M.S., P. Rajini Reddy, Manjappa C.N., and Ashok Shelke; Venkat, director of Gayatri Medical College, Visakhapatnam; Fr. Joseph Kommareddy of Father Colombo Institute of Medical Sciences, Warangal, Telangana; Shivani Agarwal of National Capital Region Institute of Medical Sciences, Meerut, Uttar Pradesh; and Swami Bhaktavatsaldasji of Swaminarayan Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, Gandhinagar, Gujarat are among the other accused.

**Sabotaged inspections**

According to the CBI, certain officials of the Health Ministry and members of the NMC inspection teams, in conspiracy with middlemen and representatives of various private medical colleges, were engaged in corrupt practices to extend favours to the institutions.

The accused officials supplied prior information to the representatives of medical colleges to help them subvert the assessment process by temporarily meeting the requirements and also by bribing the inspection team members for favourable reports.

# Prove FRA damaged forests, says Tribal Affairs Ministry

**Abhinay Lakshman**
NEW DELHI

A little over six months after the release of the India State of Forest Report (2023), which attributed "negative" changes in forest and tree cover to the implementation of the Forest Rights Act (FRA) and other factors, the Tribal Affairs Ministry has asked the Environment Ministry to provide evidence for this claim.

The Tribal Affairs Ministry, which is the nodal Ministry for the implementation of the FRA, said that making such claims without "adequate scientific evidence" may reinforce stereotypes among State, district, and forest administrations "that could undermine the rights vested under the Act, as well as the effectiveness of the implementation".

The Ministry has requested a "detailed scientific analysis" for the claim "with valid instances through ground truthing as the report mentions". A senior government official told *The Hindu*, "The ISFR is meant to be a very detailed and scientific study of forests. If such claims are made, the purpose is to find out what evidence supports it. That is why this communication has been issued."

A tribal villager in Odisha entering a forest to collect produce. FILE PHOTO

**Letter to Centre**

The Tribal Affairs Ministry's communication, dated July 2, comes days after over 150 forest rights and civil society groups wrote to the Union government, taking issue with the ISFR's attribution of "negative" change in forest cover partly to the implementation of the FRA. They had pointed out that this claim had been repeated by Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav in a media interview in June.

Former Environment Minister and Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, who had amplified the civil society groups' letter, shared the Tribal Affairs Ministry's communication on social media on Saturday as well.

The Tribal Affairs Ministry, in its communication, said that the FRA "does not deal with regularisation of encroachments". "Instead, it acknowledges pre-existing rights that are already being exercised by eligible individuals and communities dwelling in forest areas. Beyond securing the tenure of the existing forest dwellers, FRA does not create any new rights that could potentially affect the ecological balance within protected areas," it said.

The communication has noted that the ISFR 2023, in the chapter on "Change in forest and tree cover", has two sections – one on "positive" changes and another on "negative" changes.

In the report, under the possible reasons for "negative" changes, the Environment Ministry lists "titles given to beneficiaries under the Forest Rights Act (2006)" as one of them. According to a review of the last five ISFRs published by the Forest Survey of India (FSI) in the past decade, this is the first time, titles under FRA have been included in this list explicitly. The point on FRA as one of the reasons for "negative" change to forest cover was reiterated by Mr. Yadav in an email interview with a daily newspaper.

Notably, the Environment Ministry had denied allegations made against it by the civil society groups in a statement posted on social media on Thursday. The statement had come after Mr. Ramesh had posted the civil society groups' letter on social media.

# 'BRICS has no plan for an alternative currency'

Brazil's Ambassador to India says the summit in Rio will focus on building intra-BRICS trade, climate change, artificial intelligence and fighting terrorism; he says that the grouping may look at adopting local currencies as an option for conducting trade and it will be on a voluntary basis

INTERVIEW

**Kenneth Felix Haczynski da Nobrega**

**Suhasini Haidar**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will land in Rio De Janeiro early Sunday morning to attend the BRICS summit (July 6-7), along with leaders of the newly inducted members Egypt, Ethiopia, the UAE, Iran, and Indonesia. All eyes will be on a Leaders' Joint Statement, especially given India's focus on terrorism after the Pahalgam attack and Operation Sindoor, as well as differences with new members over reforms in the UN Security Council , amid the absence of two key leaders, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping. Responding to a query on reactions from the U.S. if BRICS moves towards de-dollarisation, Brazil's Ambassador to India Kenneth Felix Haczynski da Nobrega says the grouping has no plans of creating an alternative currency, but will build options of local currency trade within itself. Excerpts:

SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

**What are your hopes for real outcomes from this summit?**

We are envisaging a BRICS which will deliver some results, among them, a dedicated declaration on climate change financing, financing and regulation of artificial intelligence, and a partnership on socially determined diseases, diseases which we associate with states of poverty. Apart from the first session, all sessions of the Rio BRICS summit will be open to the partner countries and to invited countries. This is an effort at transparency and inclusivity in the platform to discuss the big challenges of humanity. A telling sign is that 30-plus countries have expressed an interest in joining BRICS.

**U.S. President Donald Trump has threatened 100-500% tariffs against BRICS if it moves towards de-dollarisation. How seriously do you take the U.S. statements against BRICS?**

If you have declarations of an important country like the United States, it is taken seriously. But to speak of a BRICS currency... that is something that does not exist, and we are not envisioning creating a BRICS currency in the foreseeable future.

What we are envisaging is stimulating businesses of BRICS countries to adopt local currencies as an option for conducting trade. This will be on a voluntary basis, and it's nothing new – within MERCOSUR, which is the South American integration process, we have had the possibility of using local-currency trades for more than 25 years. So this is just one more option, not a move against the dollar.

**This is the first BRICS summit since the Pahalgam terror attack. How will BRICS address the issue of terrorism?**

I can tell you that the Foreign Minister's meeting of BRICS (on April 28-29), which did not produce a joint statement but had a Chair's summary, included a paragraph on the Pahalgam attack. So we are quite confident that the Leaders' Statement at BRICS would also contain a robust paragraph condemning terrorism.

**Has the expansion of BRICS led to more tensions within the grouping? There is still no clarity on the membership of Saudi Arabia. Is BRICS losing its cohesiveness?**

In the past, even when BRICS was composed of only five members, it always focused on what unites such diverse countries, not on divisions. The five original members – Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa – were already diverse countries, and the focus was not on what we cannot do together, but what we can do together. By accepting new members, BRICS has shown its diversity and consensus-building ability. And it is this ability that led to notable results like the establishment of the New Development Bank.

**Given the focus on the Global South in BRICS, do you see the Rio Summit pitching itself as a challenger to the more established G-7 grouping?**

Brazil has never seen BRICS as a challenge to G-7, or as some kind of bloc against G-7. BRICS is a group that comes together to advance our converging interests.

**What are the main outcomes expected from Prime Minister Modi's visit to Brasilia, and a meeting with President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, which will follow the BRICS summit?**

The state visit will take place against a backdrop of booming business and engagement between our two countries. Just to give you a figure, in less than two years, we have had 110 missions (trade and bilateral) in both directions, between India and Brazil. These missions were basically focused on four areas: defence, agriculture, energy and the pharmaceutical industry. We have seen an intensification of contacts between government and government on digital partnerships and artificial intelligence. We now have space here to take stock and facilitate business in a number of areas.

## INBRIEF

### Jane Street a surveillance issue, says SEBI Chief Pandey

A day after the markets regulator passed an interim order banning JS Group for market manipulation, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said it was an issue of surveillance and continuous tracking is being done. "We have effectively increased surveillance, both at the exchange level as well as at SEBI. So, this is basically a surveillance issue and I think we are keeping a track of it more closely," he added.

### 'NDB mandate needs renewal with focus on agility, efficiency'

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has called for a renewed mandate for the New Development Bank (NDB), emphasising the need for greater agility, technological advancement, and efficiency in today's fast-changing world. Observing NDB had played an important role in reshaping the financial landscape for the global South, she said it has approved more than 100 projects and more than $35 billion in financing across member countries. PTI

### Tata Steel to contest Odisha Mines Dept.'s ₹1,900-cr. fine

Tata Steel has decided to contest the penalty of more than ₹1,902 crore levied on it by the Odisha government. The management believes that the State's demand lacks justification. Accordingly, the firm said it will pursue legal remedies. On July 3, it received a letter from Deputy Director of Mines, Jajpur for shortfall in dispatch of minerals from the firm's Sukinda Chromite Block for the fourth year. The alleged shortfall had resulted in an aggregate demand of ₹1,902 crore, it said.

# 'Jane Street has completely eroded confidence in sanctity of Indian markets'

Impounding just the unlawfully gotten gains of ₹4,843 crore does not alone serve justice; market regulator SEBI should pass an exemplary judgment to deter future manipulators who try to do something similar, says Mayank Bansal, among the largest portfolio managers in options in Indian equities

INTERVIEW

**Mayank Bansal**

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

In late December 2024, portfolio manager Mayank Bansal saw abnormalities in the options volumes of Nifty and alerted Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI), that a top U.S.-based proprietary firm was into foul play. SEBI investigated and passed an interim order banning the errant firm and impounding ₹4,843 crore of unlawful gains. Mr. Bansal, among the largest portfolio managers in Indian options equities, explains what needs to be done to deter manipulators. Excerpts:

**When did you suspect Jane Street?**

The market getting manipulated was clear by February 2024 itself. The identity of the manipulator was not clear by then but the options market dynamics, made it evident the market was getting manipulated.

The needle of suspicion was always on Jane Street due to the disproportionate profit it was accumulating. There was also a widely-publicised court case in the U.S. between Jane Street and Millenium where Jane had sued two of its traders who had left to join Millenium for having taken a highly-valuable secret strategy with them. It was inadvertently revealed during court proceedings the strategy pertained to Indian options and that Jane Street had made ₹8,000 crore from it in calendar year 2023.

**What was the anomaly?**

The anomaly was the manipulator would take heavy options positions in the derivatives market on options expiry days, which is very deep and then move underlying cash segment (which is far less liquid) to benefit from those.

This was done via two constructs of expiries the manipulator created:

**Case 1 Quiet expiry:** Here the manipulator would sell money options in bulk leading to them becoming dirt cheap as indicated by their implied volatilities. It would then maintain the index in a very tight range to pocket all the premium. Interestingly, the expiry too would be right on the strike where it had sold its options.

**Case 2-Volatile expiry:** Here, it would buy a lot of options on one side (say calls for profiting massively on the upside). It would buy in bulk. The options would become exorbitantly expensive with no rationale and then, in the latter hours of the day, it would execute a steep upmove in the cash market to profit heavily from all the calls it had bought.

The extent of cheapness of options (in case 1) or expensiveness of options (in case 2) would be absolutely inexplicably bizzare. Imagine a real estate property selling for ₹100 in case 1 and a bottle of water selling for ₹1 lakh in case 2.

**What did you do then?**

In early 2024, when most experienced traders identified the manipulation, they were largely just waiting for the regulator to step in and the manipulation to correct, but manipulation just kept increasing through 2024 up to December, at which point the Nifty was being made to move 2% casually. It was at this point (in late December) I made a presentation and mailed it to SEBI.

Mr. Ananth Narayan (SEBI Wholetime Member (who passed interim order on Jane Street) was kind enough to immediately respond and ask me for an in-person presentation. Since then, I have been sending emails whenever I noticed continued anomalies.

**Are you satisfied with the SEBI order?**

The order, as of now, is an interim order. The unlawful gain of ₹4,843 crore they mentioned is from in depth analysis of just 21 expiry days. They are yet to evaluate all the other expiry days. This unlawful gain is most likely a small fraction of the entire unlawful gains which would be revealed over time.

There is a high probability that more or less ₹36,500 crore was unlawfully got. This is because Jane Street, which typically serves as a market maker in other geographies was, in fact, not market making in India but was instead taking large directional exposures via options, which is highly odd. In doing so , it was making nine times the next largest guy (Optiver) in India in terms of profit. Also, impounding just the unlawful gains does not serve justice. The penalty should be higher.

**How significant is this?**

Having said this, the judgment by SEBI is an absolutely landmark. This will have reverberations across trading desks in Hong Kong, Singapore, London and New York. It's a wake up call for anyone seeing Indian markets as soft targets. SEBI made a stark departure from some earlier mellowed judgments.

**Impact on markets, retail investors...**

Jane Street has completely eroded confidence in the sanctity of Indian markets. India's premier indices were held hostage to the whims of one single unscrupulous player. This continued for two years. It is embarrassing for us as a country. The bulk of the losses were borne by the retail segment. It was revealed in a recently published SEBI report that of the three key segments (FPIs, prop desks (institutions), retail), only the retail segment was incurring heavy losses. These losses were to the tune of ₹55,000 crore in FY24. This is roughly the entire pool of profits in the Indian derivatives segment.

It has also been revealed Jane Street made ₹20,000-₹25,000 crore in the calendar year 2024. This is 40% of the entire pool of profit in Indian derivatives. And plausibly almost all of it illegally amassed via manipulation, funded by Indian retail investors. SEBI initially disagreed with points made in the representation but ultimately scrapped delta exposure intraday limits.

**What else to be done?**

SEBI should pass an exemplary judgement to deter future manipulators who try to do something similar. Only last week, a new manipulator seems to have entered the fray at a smaller scale. Under section 24 of the SEBI Act, SEBI can charge upto 3x the unlawfully made amount and even pursue criminal prosecution of the entities involved for a period of 10 years, for large scale manipulation. Market manipulation is dealt with very severely in the U.S. too.

To put an end to this, SEBI should set limits on exposure entities take. Or, send a soft message across that high exposures would be probed. This and consequent surveillance should be iron clad. Entities with disproportionate profit need to be routinely probed to keep markets free of such scourge.

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

HIDCO

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–190/1/HIDCO/Admn-4353/2025 Date 03.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 4.127 ACRES (16703.222 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIC/19 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL/ COMMERCIAL/MIXED USE" PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4825] dtd. 03.07.2025

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO.IIC/19 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 4.127 Acres | 11.08.2025 | 04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T13923(4)/2025

**Bangalore Electricity Supply Company Limited**
(Wholly Owned State Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
(CIN-U40010KA2002SGC030438)

**Notice Inviting Tender (NIT) (KPPP only)**

BESCOM invites tender against enquiry No.BESCOM/GM(DAS,SG&TIC)/AMC/LRC-LBS/2025-26/01/Dated: 03/07/2025 for "**Annual Maintenance of Line Reclosures and Load Break Switches installed under DAS Project in BMAZ, Bangalore**"

The bid documents can be obtained through e-procurement portal on **09.07.2025** after **16:00** Hours onwards from the website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** e-procurement helpdesk: **+91 80 46010000, +91 80-68948777** or **e-mail : support@eprochelpdesk.com**

Sd/- General Manager
DAS,TIC & SG,
BESCOM

For Electricity related complaints call: 1912
Download BESCOM Mithra Mobile APP

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

HIDCO

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–193/1/HIDCO/Admn-4352/2025 Date 03.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 0.66 ACRES (2670.98 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIIG/OP-16 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/MIXED" USE PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4829] dtd. 03.07.2025

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO.IIIG/OP-16 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 0.66 Acres | 11.08.2025 | 04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T13920(4)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

HIDCO

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–191/1/HIDCO/Admn-4351/2025Date 03.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 7.38 ACRES (29866.45 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIIG/OP-13 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/MIXED USE" PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4827] dtd. 03.07.2025

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO. IIIG/OP-13 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 7.38 Acres | 11.08.2025 | 04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T13924(4)/2025

**TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI**
MARKETING DEPARTMENT **e- PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE**

e-Tenders are invited for supply of the following items to the Marketing Department, T.T.Devasthanams. For Tender notice and tender details log on to the web site http:// www.tirumala.org and https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in.For further details contact phone numbers: 0877-2264079, 2264555, FAX No: 0877-2264554.

| Sl.No. | Quantity and Name of the Item |
|---|---|
| 1 | 72,00,000 Kgs of Sugar (S-30) |
| 2 | 40,000 Tins of Refined Sunflower Oil with Agmark (each tin 15 kgs net) |
| 3 | 1,80,000 kgs of Goduma Ravva |
| 4 | 25,00,000 Nos of Bio Compostable Laddu Covers |

TTD-40021/10/2025-PRO SEC (Adv.No.127) Date:05-07-2025 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

मध्योत्तरी **North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Prayagraj**
(Ministry of Culture, Government of India)
14, CSP Singh Marg, Prayagraj-211001
Tel: 0532-2421855

**Deepawali Crafts Fair and Rashtriya Shilp Mela-2025**

North Central Zone Cultural Centre, Prayagraj is organizing **Deepawali Crafts Mela from 08th to 19 October, 2025** and **Rashtriya Shilp Mela from 01 to 12 December, 2025** at Shilp Haat of the Centre. The applicants have to submit self Photo, Aadhar card, Weavers Service Center/DCH Registration Card along with the application form, otherwise the application will be rejected/not considered. The applicants have to deposit a partial amount of **Rs 20,000/- (Rupees twenty thousand only)** separately for Deepawali Crafts fair & Rashtriya Shilp Mela through bank Draft in favour of Director, NCZCC Prayagraj. The number of stalls are limited. The last date for receipt of applications in the Centre's Office for **Deepawali Crafts Mela** is **15 September 2025 till 6:00 PM** and for **Rashtriya Shilp Mela** is **10 November 2025 till 6:00 PM**. Detailed information's may be obtained on the website of the center at **www.nczcc.in** or on the telephone number of the center's office at 0532-2421855 or on the mobile number-7607001855

Director Incharge
NCZCC, Prayagraj

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

HIDCO

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–189/1/HIDCO/Admn-4356/2025 Date 03.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 3.196 ACRES (12933.519 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IIIE/OP-64 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/MIXED USE" PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4822] dtd. 03.07.2025

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO.IIIE/OP-64 IN ACTION AREA III OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 3.196 Acres | 11.08.2025 | 04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T13921(4)/2025

**GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL**

HIDCO

West Bengal Housing Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
(A Govt. of West Bengal Undertaking)
HIDCO BHABAN, Premises No. 35-1111, Biswa Bangla Sarani, 3rd Rotary, New Town, Kolkata-700156
Memo No. C–192/1/HIDCO/Admn-4355/2025 Date 03.07.2025
Abridged Notice for e-Auction

E-AUCTION FOR ALLOTMENT OF 4.118 ACRES (16664.749 Sq. Mtr) OF LAND IN PLOT NO. IID/39/2 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA ON FREEHOLD BASIS FOR "RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL/MIXED" USE PURPOSE.
[e-Auction ID: 2025_WB_4828] dtd. 03.07.2025

| PLOT NO. | PLOT SIZE | E-AUCTION DATE | LAST DATE OF APPLICATION |
|---|---|---|---|
| PLOT NO.IID/39/2 IN ACTION AREA II OF NEW TOWN, KOLKATA | 4.118 Acres | 11.08.2025 | 04.08.2025 upto 14:00 hrs. |

For details, please visit https://eauction.gov.in or www.wbhidcoltd.com
Contact no :- 2324-6032/6037/6038

ICA- T13922(4)/2025

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department
**Assistant Conservator of Forests,**
**Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.**
No.:ACF:Channagiri:Tender.C.R-01/25-26-1 D:25.06.2025
**(Through e-Procurement Portal Call-2)**

Tender is invited through https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal from concerned, eligible contractors for implementing works related to "Raising of Plantation, Raising of Monsoon Plantation and Advance Work including Raising of Seedlings in limits of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi for the year 2025-26", in the limits of Bhadravathi Forest Division for the year 2025-26 fixing time up to 4.00 PM on 04.06.2025. For Tender conditions and further information this office can be contacted during office hours and details regarding the Tender can be obtained from the official website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Approximate amount of work: Rs. 250.29000 lakhs.

**1.**"Raising of Plantation, Raising of Monsoon Plantation and Advance Work including Raising of Seedlings in limits of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Bhadravathi Division, Bhadravathi for the year 2025-26"

*) Last date for Tender Submission: 10.07.2025, 16.00 Hrs.
*) Date of opening Technical Bid: 11.07.2025, 16.30 Hrs.
*) Date of opening Financial Bid: 11.07.2025, 17.00 Hrs.

**Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forests,**
**Channagiri Sub Division, Channagiri.**

DIPR/smg/ksmca/25-26/28/07/532

**BENGALURU NORTH UNIVERSITY**
Sri Devaraj Urs Extension, Tamaka, Kolar-563 103.
Web:**www.bnu.karnataka.gov.in**
Email:**bnuregistrar@karnataka.gov.in**
Date: 02.07.2025

**E-tender Notification**

The Registrar, Bengaluru North University, Tamaka, Kolar invites Bids from the eligible and reputed firms for the various Tenders listed below as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (KTPP) Act, the Tenderers who have registered under E-Governance, Department of Karnataka may participate through the kppp portal and download the tender document from the website **http:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 02.07.2025**

**1.** Procurement of Lab Equipments, Chemicals and Glasswares to Chemistry and Botany Department, PG Center,Mangasandra- **Tender no: BNU/2025-26/IND0050.**

**2.** Supply and Installation of Desktops, Laptops, Copier Machines, Printer, Scanners to Bengaluru North University, Tamaka, Kolar- **Tender no: BNU/2025-26/ IND0051.**

**3.** Supply and Installation of On Line UPS to Bengaluru North University, Tamaka, Kolar - **Tender no: BNU/2025-26/IND0052.**

**Sd/-**
**REGISTRAR**
**Bengaluru North University**
**Tamaka, Kolar**

DIPR/Kolar/R.O.No:171/KSMCA/2025-26

**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

**Office of the Executive Engineer, PWD Bangalore Division,**
2nd Floor, PWD Annexure Building, K.R. Circle, Bangalore - 01
**Telephone No.** 080-22133370, **Email ID:** eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
**E-Portal :** https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

**Tender Notification No. 09/2025-26 DATED: 04.07.2025**

Item-rate tenders, for the work in PWD Devanahalli Sub Division under this office noted below, are invited by the undersigned on behalf of the Governor of Karnataka in accordance with Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement rules 2000 and as per Standard Tender Documents for procurement of works from the contractors registered in K.P.W.D. as per KPPP. Tender Notification are Published for 06 works **(Rs. 9.00 to 132.60 Lakhs)** Details of the tender works can be obtained from the above Office during office hours on working days. EMD & Tender processing fees are mentioned in KPP portal.

**For Sl No 01 to 05 :- 1.** Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM on Dated: 18.07.2025.**

**2.** The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **19.07.2025 at 4.30 PM or** further date and time will be Intimate.

**For Sl No 06 :- 3.** Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal on or before **4.00 PM** on Dated: **11.07.2025.**

**4.** The opening of tenders through KPP portal on Dated: **14.07.2025 at 4.30 PM or** further date and time will be Intimate.

**For more details contact this office.**

**Sd/-**
**Executive Engineer**
**PWD, Bangalore Division, Bangalore.**

DIPR/CP/1643/Zen/2025-26

**Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike**
Office of the Executive Engineer-3, Health and Sanitation,
BBMP Head Office, # 408, Annex-3 Building, 4th Floor,
N.R.Square, Bengaluru-560002.

**No BBMP/EE-3/H&S/TEND/02/2025-26** **Date: 05.07.2025**

**SHORT TERM**
**INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)**

**(Two Cover System)**
**(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)**

The Executive Engineer-3, Health and Sanitation on behalf of the Chief Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), invites proposals (Technical and Financial) for appointing Contractor for "Construction of Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre" detailed in the table below.

| Sl. No. | Name of Assignment |
|---|---|
| 1. | Construction of Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre in Hosapalya, Bommanahalli Zone. **Amount put to tender :** Rs. 430.00 Lakhs. **EMD:** Rs. 4,30,000.00/-. |
| 2 | Construction of Animal Birth Control (ABC) Centre in Mahadevpura Zone. **Amount put to tender :** Rs. 430.00 Lakhs. **EMD:** Rs. 4,30,000.00/-. |

**Calendar of Events:** 1) Availability of RFP Document from : 08.07.2025 onwards. 2) Last Date for Receipt of Queries 15.07.2025 up to 15:00 hours. 3) Date of Pre bid meeting at the office Special commissioner(H &S) on 15.07.2025 at 15.30 hours. 4) Last Date for receipt of Tenders is 23.07.2025 before 16:00 hours. 5) Date of Opening of Technical Proposals is 24.07.2025 on 16:30 hours. 6) Date of Opening of Financial Proposals after Approval of Technical Proposals through KPPP.

**Sd/- Executive Engineer-3, Health and Sanitation**

# Not changing clothes can alter your room's ozone chemistry

**The Hindu Bureau**

Our daily habits, like how often we shower or change our clothes, depend on our environs and sometimes also on our energy levels. But obviously how dirty we are also affects our immediate environment. Atoms and molecules in the air can react with compounds on our skin and clothes to form airborne chemicals.

In a new study, researchers from China, Denmark, and the U.S. tested how our habits affect which chemicals are formed. Their findings are (un)pleasantly surprising. They found that not bathing for three days made almost no difference because glands quickly replace the oils on the skin that have been washed off. However, wearing the same unwashed clothes for three days boosted ozone-generated chemicals in the air by about 25%.

The researchers built a steel chamber about the size of a telephone booth and asked three healthy men in their 20s to sit inside for two to three hours at a time. A snorkel-like mask sent each volunteer's breath outside the chamber, where instruments received the emissions from their skin and clothes. Fresh air flowed through the chamber about twice every hour, and the researchers could either keep ozone levels very low (under 2 parts per billion, ppb) or add a gentle 10 ppb breeze of ozone similar to that during a clean, sunny day outdoors.

In separate test runs, the team varied one of temperature, relative humidity, personal hygiene or clothing coverage while keeping the other settings constant.

Outside, they continuously analysed the air from the chamber with a sensitive mass spectrometer that tracked 11 marker chemicals, including acetone, 6-methyl-5-hepten-2-one (6-MHO), geranyl acetone, and several aldehydes.

These compounds are well-known byproducts of the reaction of ozone with skin oil.

This way, they found that temperature and humidity hardly mattered. Between 22° C and 28° C the total ozone-driven emissions stagnated at around 4 micromoles per square metre per hour. Changing the relative humidity from 40% to 70% also left emission rates unchanged.

However, while not bathing made little difference either, sticking to the same clothes for three days increased the production of 6-MHO and geranyl acetone, derived from squalene on the skin, by up to 77%. Clothes-only tests confirmed that fabric coated with old skin oil becomes its own chemical plant. The study was published in *ACS Environmental Au* on June 29.

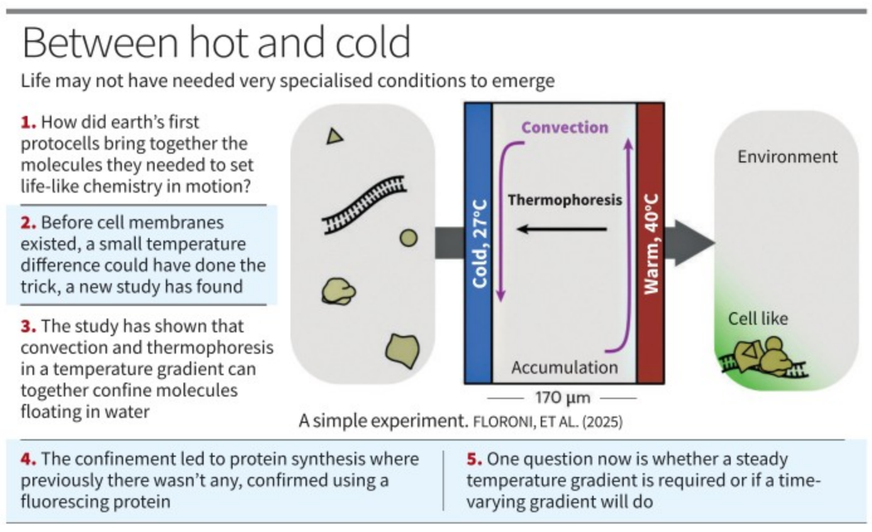
# On early earth, a little heat could have led to complex life

Billions of years ago, a rock crack exuding heat could have gathered different types of biomolecules together and kickstarted protein synthesis

**Vasudevan Mukunth**

Before true cells existed on the earth, organic molecules floated freely in water. The first cell membrane created a compartment so that useful molecules like RNA and proteins could stay close enough to interact with each other, leading to more complex biological functions.

However, an important question remains: how did the first protocells on early earth bring together all the molecules they needed and set life-like chemistry in motion? According to a new study, simple heat, like the warmth of volcanic rocks, could have done the trick.


Between hot and cold
Life may not have needed very specialised conditions to emerge
1. How did earth's first protocells bring together the molecules they needed to set life-like chemistry in motion?
2. Before cell membranes existed, a small temperature difference could have done the trick, a new study has found
3. The study has shown that convection and thermophoresis in a temperature gradient can together confine molecules floating in water
Convection
Thermophoresis
Cold, 27°C
Warm, 40°C
Accumulation
170 µm
Environment
Cell like
4. The confinement led to protein synthesis where previously there wasn't any, confirmed using a fluorescing protein
5. One question now is whether a steady temperature gradient is required or if a time-varying gradient will do
A simple experiment. FLORONI, ET AL. (2025)

### Putting it together

When one side of a small water-filled crack is warmer than the other, two things happen. Warm liquid rises and cooler liquid sinks, creating a gentle loop; second, many molecules drift from the hotter side towards the cooler side. Together, these flows can sweep dissolved molecules downwards and hold them there.

The study, authored by scientists from Canada, Finland, Germany, and Italy, was published in *Nature Physics*. The scientists built small 170-micrometre-thick chambers sandwiched between sapphire plates. The top plate was maintained at 40° C and the bottom plate at 27° C.

Then they turned to PURExpress, a cell-free protein synthesis kit made from *Escherichia coli* bacteria. The kit contains every major part of *E. coli*'s protein-making machinery – DNA, RNA polymerase, amino acids, etc. – in purified form.

Before the experiment, the team diluted these contents threefold in order to keep the kit from being able to make proteins.

Next, they added a short piece of DNA that coded for a protein called green fluorescent protein (GFP) to each PURExpress mix. GFP fluoresces with a bright green light that can be seen under a microscope. As a result, the mix had a built-in light bulb that reported when and where protein synthesis happened.

The authors let the PURExpress mix 'express' itself for around 16 hours both with and without the temperature gradient between the sapphire plates.

Then they opened a narrow channel at the top and pumped pure water for up to nine hours or a nutrient feed for up to 22 hours while maintaining the gradient.

Right after, the team froze the chambers to preserve their concentration profiles for later study. Then they split the frozen sample into three layers from top to bottom and analysed each slice.

### Like a membrane

They found that there was 25 times more GFP in the bottom layer than in the top. Similarly, key ions including those of magnesium (30x) and potassium (7x) and phosphate ions (70x) had accumulated more at the bottom than at the top. The team also found that DNA, RNA building blocks, and amino acids had become concentrated at the bottom.

Once these molecules were crowded together, the previously inactive PURExpress mix had switched on gene expression. The team found that the mix was manufacturing GFP only in the chamber with the temperature gradient, not in the chamber without. In fact, even when water flowed overhead for nine hours, more than 95% of the GFP was trapped while small amounts of phosphate waste diffused out, displaying membrane-like selectivity without an actual membrane.

For added measure, the team also modelled the heat, flow, and diffusion and found that they reproduced the 3D concentration profiles of various molecules.

Thus, according to the study, just a rock crack exuding heat could have gathered different types of biomolecules together and kickstarted protein synthesis.

Over time, cell membranes let early cells set up ion gradients, i.e. different ion concentrations inside versus outside. When ions flowed back through primitive channels, the flux could power the first molecular machines.

### Keep it simple

The researchers wrote that the phenomena they've proposed could be playing out around hydrothermal vents. This will need to be checked.

National Centre for Biological Sciences professor Shashi Thutupalli also said the phenomena described in the study "would rely on some steady gradient. Whether the timescale of the temperature gradients in nature are similar to those in the study needs to be checked."

He also said he was curious whether all kinds of molecules would move in response to the temperature gradient.

"In my opinion, I don't think we'll ever exactly figure out what exactly happened on early earth. But one takeaway is that maybe the start of life needn't have been very complicated or specialised," Dr. Thutupalli said.

For example, a March 2025 study in *Science* found that when neutral water is sprayed, it creates oppositely charged microdroplets that cause an electrical discharge, instigating chemical reactions around them.

# Evidence of a matrilineal society in neolithic China

**D.P. Kasbekar**

Evidence from two Neolithic cemeteries on China's eastern coast, reported recently by researchers at Peking University in Beijing in *Nature*, showed that some communities were organised in matrilineal clans 4,750-4,500 years ago.

Scientists are still debating whether any early human societies were matrilineal. Numerous genetic studies have concluded that ancient societies were patriarchal. Some of the rare exceptions include the Chaco Canyon dynasty in North America (800-1300 BC) and some Celtic communities in Germany (616-200 BC).

The new evidence came from analysing skeletal remains retrieved from cemeteries used for around 250 years, spanning at least 10 generations. The findings challenge scientists' assumptions about traditional societies.

Most of an individual's genome (DNA) is inherited equally from each parent. But around 0.0005% is inherited only from the mother. This is the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). Sperm cells don't normally transmit mitochondria. The non-mtDNA is located in the cell's nucleus. Nuclear DNA contains two genome sets and is organised in 23 pairs of chromosomes. One chromosome of each pair is inherited via the father's sperm and the other via the mother's egg. The sex chromosomes, X and Y, define one pair.

Both males and females inherit an X chromosome from the mother. Females receive their second X from the father, whereas males receive the Y chromosome that carries the maleness-determining gene. The Y chromosome carries about 1% of the nuclear DNA. Since the Y is transmitted by a father to all of his sons, it is patrilineally inherited.

Human remains found in the northern (top) and southern graves at the Neolithic site in Fujia, China. NING, ET AL. (2025)

Thus, sequence information from mtDNA and the Y-chromosome is used to trace maternal and paternal lineages, respectively.

### Isotope ratios

The researchers found that all individuals buried in each cemetery had the same mtDNA, but the mtDNA in the two cemeteries was different. In contrast, the Y chromosomes recovered from the male remains were diverse, meaning that in each cemetery, the burials were determined solely by matrilineal affinity.

Analyses of the rest of the genome revealed frequent intermarriages between relatively distantly related individuals across the two matrilineal clans, such as second or third cousins. Two particular individuals interred in different cemeteries, N01 and S32, were a paternal aunt-nephew pair or a niece-paternal uncle pair. Their mtDNA was consistent with where they were buried. This adherence to matrilineal burial was also evident in two pairs of first-cousins.

Each geographical locale has a characteristic ratio of the $^{87}Sr$ isotope to that of the $^{86}Sr$ isotope, depending on the mineral composition of the local soil. The ratio in teeth indicates the individual's childhood location, while that in bones their adulthood location. If the ratios in teeth and bone differ, the individual may have migrated. The bones and teeth of the remains had the same Sr ratio as local wild plants, meaning the individuals were born and resided throughout their lives in the same geography.

Similarly, the ratio of carbon isotopes $^{13}C$ to $^{12}C$ indicated a diet dominated by corn, sorghum, millet, sugarcane and switch-grass.

The researchers concluded that the population practiced millet-based agriculture and raised pigs for meat. Males and females had the same diet.

The findings exemplify how anthropology and archaeology are furthered by studying genomes and isotopes.

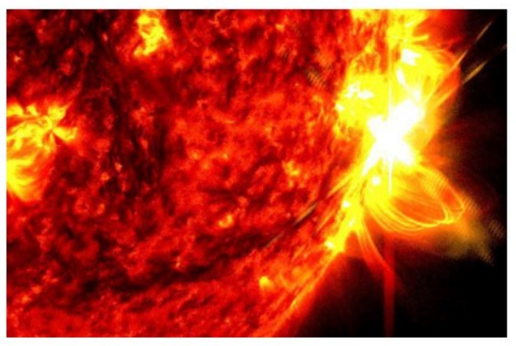
Agriculture, animal domestication, and settled communities began in the Neolithic period. That cemeteries from this time were organised around matrilineal clans suggests the existence of a matrilineal society in early human history.

*D.P. Kasbekar is a retired scientist.*

## SNAPSHOTS

### Artificial intelligence tools are changing scientific writing

Scientists analysed over 15 million biomedical abstracts from 2010 to 2024 to look for excess vocabulary, words that appeared more often than past trends predict. They unearthed increasing use of tone-altering words like "delves", "showcasing", and "crucial" across papers published from late 2022 or so. The team has attributed this to the use of LLMs like ChatGPT to write papers. For 2024 alone, the team estimated 13.5% of that year's abstracts were written or polished with an LLM.



### The innermost planet that causes its star to flare

Around 400 lightyears away, astronomers have found a star that flares almost always after its innermost planet crosses in front of it. The correlation suggests the planet's motion disturbs the star's magnetic field, triggering flares. The extra high-energy radiation and likely coronal-mass ejections bombard the planet, rarefying and stripping its already puffy atmosphere. According to the team, the star, HIP 67522, is a prototype system to study magnetic star-planet interactions.

### New molecule tracks copper levels in living cells

Researchers have created F-NpCu1, a molecule that lights up when it encounters free copper inside the human body. It's built on a naphthalimide dye linked to a copper-reactive group and a fluorine tag, and is stable in cells and non-toxic. In cell cultures, mouse tissue, and human brain samples, the probe's brightness tracked known copper shortages and surpluses. The team wrote their work is an "advance towards development of the first clinical tool."

## Question Corner

# Under pressure

**How does a digital barometer work?**
*– Yugandhara Muthukrishnan, Chennai*

A barometer is a device to measure pressure. From the 17th to the 19th centuries, most designs had the same working principle: air pressure pushed down on an open column of fluid, which was allowed to move into a second column with a closed top. The aneroid barometer was invented in 1844: air acted on a capsule that was kept from collapsing by a spring. As the capsule contracted under pressure, it moved small levers attached to a needle on a gauge. Today, devices use digital barometers. Here, a micro-electro-mechanical system (MEMS) converts changes in pressure to electronic signals. One way is to use the piezoresistive effect: when pressure is applied on a conductor, its resistivity changes. Another way is to expose one plate of a capacitor to air pressure: as the pressure changes, the inter-plate distance varies. The rest of the MEMS circuitry amplifies the changed resistance or capacitance signal, converts it into a pressure reading, and displays it on a screen.

Readers may send their questions / answers to questioncorner@thehindu.co.in

# What are the pros and cons of the ELI scheme?

What are the incentives of the employment-linked incentive and whom will it benefit?

**A. M. Jigeesh**

**The story so far:**

The Union Cabinet approved an Employment-Linked Incentive (ELI) scheme with an outlay of ₹99,446 crore. The scheme, a promise made in the 2024-25 budget, is aimed at creating employment, particularly in the manufacturing sector. It is a part of the Prime Minister's package of five schemes to facilitate employment such as internships with big companies and measures to improve skills of the youth.

### What are the key provisions?

The ELI scheme, according to the Labour Ministry, incentivises creation of more than 3.5 crore jobs over a period of two years. The Centre expects 1.92 crore newly employed people to get the benefit of the scheme, which comes into operation from August 1, 2025 and ends on July 31, 2027. The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will implement the scheme. Newly recruited employees, with salaries up to ₹1 lakh, will get a one-month EPF wage up to ₹15,000 in two installments. The EPFO will pay the first instalment after six months of service and the second instalment after 12 months of service – both as direct bank transfer. A portion of the incentive will be kept in "a savings instrument of deposit account for a fixed period and can be withdrawn by the employee at a later date". The establishments, registered with EPFO, will get up to ₹3,000 per month, for two years, "for each additional employee with sustained employment for at least six months". The Centre adds that for the manufacturing sector, incentives will be extended to third and fourth years as well.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh-backed Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh has welcomed the ELI scheme with a rider that the government must expand the social security base and improve the quality of employment

### How have employers responded?

Employers have welcomed the scheme, with caveats. Former Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry president Subhrakant Panda said that ELI is a "laudable initiative". It will drive employment, especially in the manufacturing sector, through an innovative approach which combines support for those joining the workforce for the first time with incentives for creating sustained employment, he added. CII's office-bearer Sachit Jain said the ELI scheme has the potential to reshape India's employment landscape and boost labour-intensive sectors. The Sangh Parivar-backed Laghu Udyog Bharati pointed out that the focus of the scheme must be directed towards micro, small manufacturing units and allied service sectors. "We also urge that units with less than 20 employees, which form the majority, are not left behind. These units must be included under the scheme benefits," it demanded in a statement.

The founder of the Association of Indian Entrepreneurs, K.E. Raghunathan, told *The Hindu* that the scheme must be repositioned under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, with a structured reimbursement model based on actual payroll data addition. "For every new employee a specific percentage of the salary must be paid to the employee and employer as a subsidy directly on a monthly basis, as long as the employee remains in service. Make it simple and ensure a wider coverage," he suggested.

### What about trade unions?

Barring the RSS-backed Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh (BMS), all 10 central trade unions have questioned the scheme. The BMS has welcomed the ELI scheme with a rider that the government must expand the social security base and improve the quality of employment. Other unions fear that workers' money will be used to incentivise employers. Citing the fate of the Production-Linked Incentive of 2020, wherein certain sectors were given sops by the Centre to create jobs, but the money had gone into the pockets of big companies. They argued that the EPFO had to conduct a probe and ban certain companies after finding the scheme was misused for employers' benefits.

### What are some of the concerns?

There are concerns on the role of the EPFO in the scheme. As EPFO is only a custodian of savings of employees, unions are asking how it can act as an agency to implement the scheme. As the EPFO has no government funds in its books, there are doubts over the reimbursement of the money which could go to the employer or a newly recruited employee. As EPFO is not an agency with the responsibility of creating jobs, there are demands to create a separate agency to implement the scheme.

Industry experts are also questioning why the government is not addressing the slowdown in the economy, and not taking steps to improve the purchasing power of workers.

# What are the lessons from Telangana blast?

What are the safety and quality concerns, particularly in smaller pharmaceutical firms? Are regulatory checks not being carried out? What are the protocols to be followed? Are pollution norms being adhered to? How big is the pharma market?

**Serish Nanisetti**

**The story so far:**

On the morning of June 30 at 9.10 a.m., an explosion tore through Sigachi Industries, a pharmaceutical factory, and flattened a three-storeyed building in Pashamylaram on the outskirts of Hyderabad. The stock market-listed entity estimated the death toll at 39 of the 143 workers who were on-site during the explosion.

### What happened?

A four-member committee is investigating the cause of the explosion. The committee is led by B. Venkateshwar Rao, emeritus scientist at CSIR-IICT, and includes T. Prathap Kumar, chief scientist at CSIR-IICT; Surya Narayana, retired scientist at CSIR-CLRI; and Santosh Ghuge, safety officer at CSIR-NCL, Pune. While the cause is being investigated, the pharmaceutical company has issued a statement, "The accident was not caused by the reactor explosion."

Sigachi Industries was incorporated in 1989 and was in the business of manufacturing microcrystalline cellulose. This is nothing more than refined wood pulp or powder. This powder is shaped into tablets and serves as an excipient or a non-reactive carrier of medicine. The wood pulp or slurry is processed in a spray dryer that strips it of moisture using hot air. Once processed like this, the wood pulp turns into a fine powder or microcrystalline cellulose. This fine powder is suspected to have blown up on that fateful Monday morning. One of the first such 'dust explosions' recorded was in Turin in Italy in 1785 when a boy working with flour in a bakery created a cloud of flour that got lit by the lamplight. Two persons, including the boy, were injured. There is a long record of similar dust explosions in flour mills, coal mines, and grain silos killing dozens across the world. Fire forensic experts say the blast at Sigachi was a dust explosion considering the scale of damage, raw materials used and processes involved. Initially, the explosion was suspected to be a Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapour Explosion, a technical term regarding the pressure built up inside the reactor. But this has been ruled out by the company, as well as experts.

Safety is one of the key aspects of branding for the pharmaceutical industry

**Huge explosion:** Rescue personnel inspect the debris of the gutted pharmaceutical unit of Sigachi Industries, in Telangana on July 1. MOHD. ARIF

### Was there a regulatory failure?

The laxity of the regulatory framework was stark on the day of the explosion. When fire department and emergency personnel rushed to the site they did not have any information about what they were up against. The State and central pollution control boards mandate a board outside factory premises listing details about the pollution potential of the institution and factory operations. The fire fighting and disaster rescue operations are guided by this information. The green board or environment display boards outside the Sigachi Industries did not have proforma environmental data leaving fire and disaster rescue workers clueless about the nature of material involved and how to douse the fire. A tough regulatory framework with periodic check-ups would have ensured that information was available for a faster emergency response. This incident comes close on the heels of other serious accidents in pharmaceutical firms in India. Six persons were killed in Sangareddy in the SB Organics factory in 2024, 17 were killed in August 2024 in Anakapalli in Andhra Pradesh, and two were killed in Parawada, Andhra Pradesh in June 2025.

### What are the implications for the sector?

An American investments and real estate company in its April 2025 report said: "Telangana has emerged a pivotal contributor to India's life sciences landscape accounting for approximately one third of the country's pharmaceutical production, one fifth of pharmaceutical exports, and one third of global vaccine production. The State's position as a pharmaceutical manufacturing hub has attracted significant investments, with over $1.49 billion channelled into the life sciences sector over the past four years." It also analysed the role of Hyderabad in this scheme of things. Over 20 life sciences and medical technology incubators are located in Hyderabad, which is the highest concentration in the country.

India, with Telangana as its hub, has emerged as a powerhouse in the pharmaceutical sector. But safety and quality concerns have dogged smaller pharmaceutical firms. The U.S. is one of the biggest markets for Indian medical exports that is regulated by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The United States Pharmacopeia-National Formulary has a set of standards that regulate identity, strength, quality, purity, and packaging and labelling through the chain of manufacture and use. To keep being plugged into this profitable market, the standards have to match.

Safety is one of the key aspects of branding for the pharmaceutical industry that helps build trust among customers. Any laxity in any aspect of the drug processing has a cascading effect for the company as well as the industry. At stake is not just the safety of one factory but the systems and workflow that are hallmarks of stable and safe drug production. Two books, *The Truth Pill - The Myth of Drug Regulation in India* and *Bottle of Lies: Ranbaxy and the Dark Side of Indian Pharma*, by Dinesh S. Thakur and Prashant Reddy T. and Katherine Eban respectively have chronicled the regulatory leeway, and documented the dangerous practices resorted to by Indian pharma firms to keep costs low and profit margins high.

### What about pollution control norms?

Hyderabad and Telangana's pharmaceutical industry growth has been aided by lax zoning and regulatory norms. Industrial areas have to be necessarily away from residential areas. The IDA Pashamylaram was established in the early 1980s drawing some of the biggest pharmaceutical firms to the area, away from Balanagar and Patancheru that led the initial growth of the industry in Hyderabad. The initially isolated industrial area is now surrounded by residential areas. In the absence of robust and reliable public transport, worker colonies have cropped up close to the factories and industrial area. This affects the livelihood and health of people in the industrial cluster and surrounding areas.

Environmentalists have documented how tonnes of toxic chemicals and effluents have been released into the ground and into water bodies around the region. The Musi River remains highly polluted with a study on 'Pharmaceutical pollution of the world's rivers' placing it in the 22nd position worldwide in terms of concentration of active pharmaceutical ingredients. This high pollution is linked to poor waste water management infrastructure, and pharmaceutical manufacturing processes. The chemicals in the water have also been linked to a rise in antimicrobial resistance.

### What next?

The pharmaceutical sector holds the potential to attract investments and create high employment opportunities in Hyderabad and other places in India. To capitalise on this potential, India must establish a robust regulatory framework. The explosions and accidents are loud warning signs for the industry and the country.

# Why is Maharashtra debating over Hindi?

Why is there resistance to introducing Hindi as the third language in primary education in government schools? What has the State government decided on the three-language policy? What does the National Education Policy, 2020 lay down?

**Vinaya Deshpande Pandit**

**The story so far:**

The linguistic debate in Maharashtra continues days after the Maharashtra government withdrew two orders introducing Hindi as the third language in primary education across Marathi and English medium State Board schools. The government has appointed a committee under renowned economist Dr. Narendra Jadhav to study the three-language policy.

### What is the language debate in Maharashtra?

On April 16, the Maharashtra government issued an order making Hindi mandatory as the third language in all English and Marathi medium schools of the State Board in Maharashtra. The government said that it was as per the provisions of the National Education Policy (NEP), 2020. "At present, two languages are being taught from Grade 1 to Grade 4 in all the English and Marathi medium schools in the State. As per the State Education Framework, 2024, Hindi will be mandatory as the third language in all the English and Marathi medium schools from Grade 1 to Grade 5," the order stated. Till now, third language was introduced only in Grade 5 in English and Marathi medium State Board schools. The other medium schools already have a three-language policy in primary education.

'The language committee of the government was not consulted on the move'

**Linguistic unity:** Uddhav Thackeray, along with Raj Thackeray, Supriya Sule, and others, during a joint rally at Worli Dome in Mumbai on Saturday. ANI

### What was the reaction?

There was widespread opposition to the government's decision on two grounds – first, that a third language should not be imposed in primary school from Grade 1 to Grade 5. The second ground was about the imposition of Hindi. Regional linguistic groups, academics, civil society members, and prominent literary figures raised their voice against the move which was dubbed as an effort to 'force Hindi', and a move towards 'cultural hegemony'. The Maharashtra government's own language committee wrote to the government seeking its immediate revocation.

Experts argued that the NEP, 2020 focussed on R1 and R2, which is the mother-tongue, and an additional second language for primary education. They said that children should not be burdened with learning three languages in primary school. "Why should there be an imposition of Hindi? This is a concerted effort for cultural hegemony. This is in line with the RSS' plan of 'Hindi, Hindu, Hindustan'. In Maharashtra, the Marathi *manoos* will stand for his linguistic, cultural identity. This is a historic moment since the movement for the reorganisation of States on linguistic basis. The entire State has stood against the government's imposition of Hindi," Deepak Pawar of Marathi Abhyas Kendra said.

### How did the government respond?

After a severe backlash, Maharashtra education minister Dada Bhuse promised to revise the government resolution (GR). "Hindi will not be mandatory," he announced. On June 17, the government revised the GR, making Hindi a 'general' third language in schools. It stated that the students had the option to learn any other Indian language as the third language, but that it was mandatory for at least 20 students to come together to make the demand. "The government will make a teacher available or will make provision for online learning if at least 20 students come together to learn any other Indian language apart from Hindi," the revised GR stated.

However, this drew further backlash as academics and regional linguistic political parties called it an effort to impose Hindi through the backdoor. "The whole exercise of the meeting of the steering committee was carried out in secrecy by the government. The language committee of the government itself was never consulted on the move. The decision is illogical. It has no scientific backing by educationists, child psychologists. It has been taken without any consultation with the stakeholders and experts. At a time when the Marathi culture and language is not being respected by its own government, this is an assault on the linguistic identity of the State," said Laxmikant Deshmukh, head of Maharashtra's language committee.

### What about political realignments?

The issue provided a fillip to Raj Thackeray's Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, which counts 'Marathi asmita' or linguistic chauvinism as its core ideology. "We are Hindus, not Hindis," he said. It paved the path for the reunification of the Thackeray cousins after two decades. Uddhav Thackeray and Raj Thackeray joined hands against the government's move, even holding a joint rally. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar too openly expressed his displeasure with the government's decision and said that Hindi should not be imposed till Grade 4. This has led to an unease within the Mahayuti with Eknath Shinde not wanting to be seen as standing against the cause. In the face of upcoming local body elections, the language debate has led to changed political dynamics.

### What is the way ahead?

The government has announced the scrapping of the two controversial GRs issued on April 16 and June 17. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis announced the formation of a committee under Dr. Narendra Jadhav to look into the three-language policy, and said the government will accept his report. Academics have raised questions on Dr. Jadhav's expertise in school education, and have demanded the scrapping of the committee as well as the decision to impose the three-language policy in primary education. Opposition parties have said the government should scrap the three-language policy altogether. "We will not accept the three-language policy," Sanjay Raut, Shiv Sena UBT leader, said.

# PROFILES

## The nuclear policeman

### Rafael Grossi

The IAEA chief found himself in the middle of a controversy as Iran alleged that the agency prepared a misleading report about Tehran's compliance with non-proliferation obligations, which Israel and the U.S. used to justify their unprovoked aggression against the Islamic Republic

**G. Sampath**

On July 2, Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian ordered his country to suspend cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the UN's nuclear watchdog. He explained this decision as "a natural response to the unjustified, unconstructive, and destructive conduct" of the IAEA's Director General Rafael Grossi.

Tehran believes Mr. Grossi cleared the ground for Israel's unprovoked strikes on its nuclear facilities by preparing a "misleading" report on Iran's compliance with non-proliferation obligations. On the basis of this report, the IAEA's Board of Governors on June 12, one day before Israel's attack, adopted a resolution stating that Iran had "failed to cooperate fully" with the Agency and accused it of "repeatedly failing to provide the Agency with technically credible explanations" to its various queries. Israel and the U.S. used this resolution to push forward the narrative that Iran was on the verge of making a nuclear bomb and the only way to stop it was to destroy its nuclear installations through "pre-emptive" military strikes.

Subsequently, after Israel struck Iran's nuclear sites, Mr. Grossi made a clarification that seemed to walk back the impression created by the June 12 resolution. In an interview with *CNN*, he said, "We did not have any proof of a systematic effort by Iran to make a nuclear weapon." A spokesperson of Iran's Ministry of External Affairs shared the video clip of Mr. Grossi's interview on social media with the comment, "This is too late, Mr. Grossi: you obscured this truth in your absolutely biased report...Do you know how many innocent Iranians have been killed/maimed as a result of this criminal war? You've made IAEA a partner to this unjust war of aggression."

Mr. Grossi, 64, is a diplomat from the Argentine Foreign Service. In a career spanning 40 years, he carved a niche for himself in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, serving as president of the Nuclear Suppliers Group (2014-2016) before assuming office as Director General of the IAEA on December 3, 2019. He said in a 2020 interview, "I feel like I prepared for this my whole life."

As the IAEA chief, Mr. Grossi made headlines in 2022 for his energetic efforts to secure Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, which was caught in the cross-fire of the Ukraine-Russia war. An accidental strike on it could unleash a nuclear disaster that would impact much of Europe. Mr. Grossi, at some risk to his own life, personally visited the nuclear plant near the frontline. With the consent of the Ukrainian leadership, he shut down all but one reactor, and as an additional safety measure, left behind a team of UN inspectors. But his efforts did not stop there.

A month later, he went to St. Petersburg and met Russian President Vladimir Putin. His mission: to extract an assurance that Russian forces would not target the Zaporizhzhia plant. Mr. Grossi's trip had the intended effect, with the Russians steering clear of attacking the facility.

#### IAEA's mandate

Mr. Grossi's actions were fully in keeping with the mandate of the IAEA, which is to promote and safeguard peaceful nuclear programmes all over the world. Today, however, the IAEA is known more as an agency tasked with verifying that nuclear materials meant for civilian use are not diverted for weaponisation. In fact, IAEA inspectors cannot, and are not mandated to, search for weapons. They merely monitor nuclear facilities to ensure that the signatory country is fulfilling its obligations under the Comprehensive Safeguards Agreement.

Critically, IAEA inspections, by design, are incapable of generating verifiable evidence of the absence of a military nuclear programme. Nor can its reports – with their catalogue of 'failures' in compliance or cooperation – serve as a proxy for the existence of a weaponisation programme, in the absence of independent intel proving as much. Since IAEA inspections cannot possibly cover every square inch of a vast country, the problem of 'unknowns' at 'undeclared' locations are a given. While these might warrant further investigation, it is questionable whether they can be used to fuel speculation about a country's intentions at a time of escalating tensions.

ILLUSTRATION: R. RAJESH

And yet, the ambiguous wording in the IAEA resolution and Mr. Grossi's public statements did precisely that, lending credence to the narrative of Iran building a nuclear bomb. Ironically, American intel leaked to the media as well as a statement in March 2025 by the U.S. Director of National Intelligence, Tulsi Gabbard, confirmed that Iran was not building a bomb.

Another major element of this narrative was that Iran had 400 kg of highly enriched uranium (HEU), which is not needed for civilian use. Mr. Grossi dwelled on this aspect often in his public pronouncements. Yet, it is not illegal under the NPT for a signatory country to hold uranium enriched to 60%. For Iran, however, it was prohibited, but only under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA), the 2015 agreement which limited its enrichment rights to 3.67% and capped its stockpiling of enriched uranium at 300kg.

But the JCPOA became defunct – at least from the Iranian perspective – the moment the U.S. withdrew from it in 2018 and the sanctions relief guaranteed under it for Iran failed to materialise. But Mr. Grossi went along with the position of holding Iran to a JCPOA the West had already scuttled, while disregarding the IAEA's own resolutions that prohibit military attacks on civilian nuclear installations.

#### Attacks prohibited

The IAEA's General Conference resolution (407) adopted in November 1983 states that "all armed attacks against nuclear installations devoted to peaceful purposes should be explicitly prohibited". A draft resolution of September 26, 1985, submitted jointly by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden not only forbade Israel from targeting Iraq's civilian nuclear facilities, it further called "upon Israel urgently to place all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards" – something difficult to envisage at a time when exemption for Israel from international law is getting increasingly normalised. Under the IAEA statutes and the UN charter, Iran is entitled to a peaceful nuclear programme. It is also entitled to protection of its nuclear installations from military attacks. And yet, Mr. Grossi never condemned the Israeli and U.S. strikes on Iran's nuclear facilities. On the contrary, his words and deeds amplified suspicions about Iran's intentions, which were used by Israel and the U.S. to justify their attack.

Today, in the aftermath of a fragile and difficult ceasefire, Mr. Grossi is back to stoking fears about Iran's nuclear programme by claiming it could start enriching uranium again in a matter of months. Not surprisingly, Iran has refused to allow IAEA inspection of its bombed-out nuclear facilities, with the Foreign Minister, Abbas Araghchi, stating, "Grossi's insistence on visiting the bombed sites under the pretext of safeguards is meaningless and possibly even malign in intent."

Had Mr. Grossi displayed a little of the same urgency for protecting Iran's civilian nuclear facilities that he did for Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, it may have gone some way toward protecting the IAEA's credibility among nuclear threshold states.

#### THE GIST

- In a career spanning 40 years, Rafael Grossi, an Argentine diplomat, has carved a niche for himself in nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, serving as president of the Nuclear Suppliers Group before assuming office as Director General of the IAEA
- As the IAEA chief, Grossi made headlines in 2022 for his energetic efforts to secure Ukraine's Zaporizhzhia nuclear plant, which was caught in the cross-fire of the Ukraine-Russia war
- After the Israeli-American attack on Iran in June, Grossi said the agency 'did not have any proof of a systematic effort by Iran to make a nuclear weapon', but stopped short of condemning the strikes

## The Trust of Dalai Lama

### Gaden Phodrang

The Tibetan spiritual leader says the institution he set up in 2011 and heads will be the sole authority in deciding who should succeed him

**Suhasini Haidar**

The 14th Dalai Lama's announcement in Dharamshala this week, asserting for the first time that the line will continue after him, was welcomed by followers of Tibetan Buddhism and fans of its Spiritual leader worldwide. However, it was his statement that the succession would be decided by the Gaden Phodrang Trust, which would be the "sole authority" on the issue, that has sparked a sharp response from Beijing, which believes it must be given the right to "approve" the candidate.

In an ironic twist for the Communist Party-led Chinese government in Beijing, it cites a Qing dynasty tradition, used a few times, of picking the Dalai Lama successor through lots from a "Golden Urn", as the method it hopes to follow. For the Dalai Lama, who has lived in India since 1959, when he fled Lhasa years after the Chinese annexed Tibet in 1951, it will be the Gaden Phodrang trust he set up in 2011, which he heads, along with an alternate Chairperson, who is also one of the most respected lamas in the community, Samdhong Rimpoche, that will take the call.

While the trust was set up and registered in Dharamshala in the previous decade, the institution of Gaden Phodrang Labrang goes back hundreds of years, and refers to the office of the Dalai Lama as a continuing institution from the time of the 5th Dalai Lama. Gaden Phodrang was the name of the Tibetan government, established by the 5th Dalai Lama, Ngawang Lobsang Gyatso or 'the Great Fifth', as both the Spiritual and Political head of a unified Tibet. It was coined from the name of the historical estate of the Dalai Lamas at the Drepung Monastery.

#### Separation of powers

In 2011, the 14th Dalai Lama set up the Gaden Phodrang Trust as he decided to separate the Spiritual and Political powers of his post. "I have now voluntarily brought this [unified power] to an end, proud and satisfied that we can pursue the kind of democratic system of government flourishing elsewhere in the world", he said, handing over the responsibility for the welfare and governance of the Tibetan community worldwide to the Sikyong, Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) and the Tibetan Parliament in Exile that are elected every five years.

Within his own office, the Office of His Holiness The Dalai Lama (OHHDL), he set up the Gaden Phodrang Trust to ensure the continuity of spiritual and traditional issues, and the Dalai Lama Trust that undertakes charitable and welfare initiatives. Another branch, the Gaden Phodrang Foundation, was set up as a "non-profit, tax-exempt institution registered in the Canton of Zurich and under the supervision of the Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs" to promote non-violence and increase synergies between religion and science. "There should be no confusion, the Gaden Phodrang Trust that His Holiness (Dalai Lama) referred to is an entity in India," said Dhundup Gyalpo, Secretary of the Bureau of His Holiness the Dalai Lama in New Delhi.

According to the Dalai Lama's 2011 statement, which he has now reaffirmed, officers of the Gaden Phodrang Trust would bear the responsibility to recognise the 15th Dalai Lama – by a process he would leave written instructions about. This would include consulting various heads of Tibetan Buddhist traditions, seeking advice from them on the procedures required to search for the next Dalai Lama, believed to be reborn or reincarnated from the present one. In his latest book, *Voice for the Voiceless*, he has also said that given the role the next Dalai Lama must fill, it is necessary that his successor be born in the "free world", meaning outside of the Tibetan Autonomous Region in China.

At a press conference in Dharamshala ahead of the Dalai Lama's 90th birthday (July 6), Prof. Rimpoche said that the announcement has clarified the task ahead of the Gaden Phodrang Trust. Mr. Rimpoche added, however, that there may be some time before it needs to fulfil its mandate, particularly as the pontiff, who he said is in "good health", himself has said he expects to live to 110 years.

## Songs of outrage

### Bob Vylan

The British punk band, which is facing sanctions and investigations over the 'Death to IDF' chant, says it is not for the death of anyone but for 'the dismantling of a violent military machine'

**S.R.Praveen**

On June 28, at the Glastonbury music festival in the U.K., the BBC staff were on high alert. Scared of the possibility of protest music that could discomfit the powers that be, they had already decided not to live stream the performance of the Irish hip-hop trio Kneecap, which has in the past used its shows to accuse Israel of committing genocide in Palestine. Bob Vylan, the British punk rock duo, was nowhere in their radar.

This meant that all those who had tuned into the BBC stream heard the chants "free, free Palestine" and "death, death to the IDF" (referring to the Israel Defence Forces), initiated by lead singer Bobby Vylan (real name Pascal Robinson-Foster) and repeated by the large crowd waving Palestine flags. The band, which was just beginning to make its mark outside the punk underground, suddenly found itself at the centre of the global music spotlight as well as a political storm. Although a few pro-Israeli voices criticised them, the band found overwhelming support online, but the establishment was swift in its crackdown.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who had earlier demanded that Kneecap not be given a platform at the festival, called it "appalling hate speech". Police launched a criminal investigation against the band. The BBC issued a formal apology, asked some senior staff involved in the event to step back from their duties and put Bob Vylan in the "high risk" category. The U.S. State department revoked the visas of the band members, making the band lose close to 20 scheduled shows in the country. Music festivals in France and Manchester dropped them.

REUTERS

But Bob Vylan appeared to expect the blowback and was aware of what they stood to lose for saying what they said. "We are not for the death of Jews, Arabs or any other race or group of people. We are for the dismantling of a violent military machine. A machine that has destroyed much of Gaza," the band wrote on Instagram.

Bob Vylan emerged in 2017 in Ipswich, catching attention with their music which brings together the anti-establishment soul of punk rock and hip-hop. Some of their songs – which have over this week found lakhs of new listeners – and the issues that they talk about are reminiscent of rap metal legends Rage Against the Machine, known for their politically-charged performances. Strongly protective of their privacy from the "surveillance state", the duo adopted the stage names Bobby Vylan and Bobbie Vylan.

#### Protest music

A pro-Palestinian stand has always been a part of the band's ideology, with the lead singer participating in protests since a young age. Their lyrics such as "The government, their not helping no one out, except for the rich people... It makes me violent" or "Give Churchill's statue the rope and see if it floats" are designed to provoke and call attention to pertinent issues. In a way, they are sticking to the conventions of the genre, for sparking outrage is par for the course for punk bands.

Banning musicians is not a first for the *BBC* either. It had issued a total ban on punk band Sex Pistols in 1977 after they released the song *God Save the Queen*, which asked uncomfortable questions about the British monarchy. Bob Vylan also belongs to a long tradition of protest music, which witnessed its heights during the Vietnam War, when there were songs like Phil Ochs's *Draft Dodger Rag*, Pete Seeger's *Waist Deep in the Big Muddy* and Creedence Clearwater Revival's *Fortunate Son* and Bob Dylan's *Masters of War*.

The current spring of protest music led by Kneecap and Bob Vylan is certainly more direct and hard-hitting, partly due to a sense of helplessness. That is probably why their voices resonated with such a large number of music buffs, who have hit out at even the much-loved band Radiohead for their unclear stand on Palestine.

At one point, Bob Vylan appeared to be getting even more media attention than the ongoing deaths in Gaza. But as the band said, "We are not the story. We are a distraction. And whatever sanctions we receive will be a distraction." Gaza remains the story.

AIR FORCE ONE

## Trump says Iran has not agreed to inspections or give up enrichment

AP

U.S. President Donald Trump said that Iran had not agreed to inspections of its nuclear programme or to give up enriching uranium. He told reporters aboard Air Force One that he believed Tehran's nuclear programme had been set back permanently although Iran could restart it at a different location. REUTERS

DHAKA

## Bangladesh mob violence was an 'outburst of public anger', says A-G

AFP

Bangladesh's Attorney-General Mohammad Asaduzzaman on Saturday said last year's nationwide mob violence was not a manifestation of distrust against the judiciary but rather an outburst of public outrage against the deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's ousted Awami League regime. PTI

LOS ANGELES

## California's biggest wildfire of the year spreads to over 70,000 acres

REUTERS

A massive wildfire raging in California for three days has ravaged more than 70,000 acres, with hundreds of firefighters deployed. The "Madre Fire" broke out on Wednesday in San Luis Obispo. It is the year's largest blaze in California, which was scarred by fires that destroyed swaths of Los Angeles at the start of the year. AFP

BANGKOK

## Myanmar armed groups rebuff ruling junta's 'cooperation' appeal

AFP

Myanmar's ruling junta made a rare call for the armed groups it is fighting to cooperate with it ahead of a slated election, an invitation anti-coup forces swiftly rejected. The unexpected appeal comes as the junta continues to suffer major battlefield reverses to ethnic minority armed groups and pro-democracy forces. AFP

# Hamas expresses readiness to start Gaza ceasefire talks 'immediately'

Israel mulls its response with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu set to leave for Washington for talks with Trump; Hamas ally Islamic Jihad backs truce negotiations; Israeli military kills 32 people in attacks across Gaza, including at two schools

**Agence France-Presse**
GAZA CITY

Israel was mulling its response on Saturday after Hamas said it was ready to start talks "immediately" on a U.S.-sponsored proposal for a Gaza ceasefire.

The security Cabinet was expected to meet after the end of the Jewish sabbath at sundown to discuss Israel's next steps as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu prepares to leave for Washington for talks on Monday with U.S. President Donald Trump.

Mr. Trump has been making a renewed push for an end to nearly 21 months of war in the Gaza Strip, where the civil defence agency said 32 people were killed in Israeli military operations on Saturday.

**Uncertain future:** Palestinians look out from a balcony at an UNRWA school that was struck by Israel in Gaza City. REUTERS

Hamas made its announcement late on Friday after holding consultations and talks with other Palestinian factions.

"The movement is ready to engage immediately and seriously in a cycle of negotiations on the mechanism to put in place" the terms of the U.S.-backed truce proposal, the militant group said in a statement.

Hamas ally Islamic Jihad said it supported ceasefire talks, but demanded "guarantees" that Israel "will not resume its aggression" once hostages held in Gaza are freed.

Mr. Trump, when asked about Hamas's response aboard Air Force One, said: "That's good. They have not briefed me on it. We have to get it over with. We have to do something about Gaza."

Meanwhile, Gaza civil defence spokesman said Israeli military operations killed 32 people across the war-battered territory on Saturday.

Bassal said Saturday's dead included eight persons killed in two strikes on schools in Gaza City.

**Mounting toll**

Israel's military campaign has killed at least 57,268 people in Gaza, mostly civilians, according to the Hamas-run territory's health ministry. The UN considers the figures reliable.

# Trump signs 12 trade letters to be sent out next week

**Agence France-Presse**
MORRISTOWN

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Friday that he had signed 12 trade letters to be sent out next week ahead of an impending deadline for his tariffs to take effect.

"I signed some letters and they will go out on Monday, probably 12," Mr. Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One, adding that the countries that the letters would be sent to will be announced on the same day.

His comments come days before steeper duties – which the President said would range between 10% and 70% – are set to take effect on dozens of economies, from Taiwan to the European Union.

**Deferring game:** U.S. President Donald Trump had imposed a 10% duty in April on goods from almost all trading partners. FILE PHOTO

The tariffs were part of a broader announcement in April where Mr. Trump imposed a 10% duty on goods from almost all trading partners, with a plan to step up these rates for a select group within days. But he swiftly paused the hikes until July 9, allowing for trade talks to take place.

Countries have been pushing to strike deals that would help them avoid these elevated duties.

So far, Mr. Trump has unveiled deals with the U.K. and Vietnam, while Washington and Beijing agreed to temporarily lower staggeringly high levies on each other's products.

# Trump hints at curbs, says Russia wants to 'keep killing people'

**Agence France-Presse**
KYIV

**U.S. President talks to his Ukrainian counterpart and agrees to bolster Kyiv's air defences**

U.S. President Donald Trump said Russia just wanted to "keep killing people" and hinted at sanctions after Moscow launched its largest ever drone and missile attack on Ukraine.

Mr. Trump said on Friday he was "very unhappy" about his telephone call with Russian leader Vladimir Putin, saying: "He wants to go all the way, just keep killing people, it's no good". The U.S. President said he and Mr. Putin talked about sanctions "a lot", adding: "He understands that it may be coming".

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy also spoke to Mr. Trump on Friday and said they agreed to work on bolstering Kyiv's defences. "We spoke about opportunities in air defence and agreed that we will work together," Mr. Zelenskyy said.

# Ukraine strikes Russian airbase as Moscow presses with its aerial assault using drones

**Associated Press**
KYIV

Ukraine said it struck a Russian airbase on Saturday, while Russia continued to pound Ukraine with hundreds of drones overnight as part of a stepped-up bombing campaign that has further dashed hopes for a breakthrough in efforts to end the more than three-year-old war.

Ukraine's military General Staff said on Saturday that Ukrainian forces had struck the Borisoglebsk airbase in Russia's Voronezh region, describing it as the "home base" of Russia's Su-34, Su-35S and Su-30SM fighter jets.

Ukrainian emergency services personnel work to extinguish a fire following a Russian attack in Kharkiv region on Saturday. AP

Writing on Facebook, the General Staff said it hit a depot containing glide bombs, a training aircraft and "possibly other aircraft".

Russian officials did not immediately comment on the attack.

Such attacks on Russian airbases aim to dent Russia's military capability and demonstrate Ukraine's capability to hit high-value targets in Russia. Last month, Ukraine said it destroyed more than 40 Russian planes stationed at several airfields deep in Russia's territory in a surprise drone attack.

Russia fired 322 drones and decoys into Ukraine overnight into Saturday, Ukraine's air force said. Of these, 157 were shot down and 135 were lost, likely having been electronically jammed.

Ukraine's western Khmelnytskyi region was the main target of the attack. Regional Gov. Serhii Tyurin said on Saturday that no damage had been reported.

# Two dozen girls missing, 24 people dead in Texas floods

**Associated Press**
KERRVILLE

Crews searched through the dark early on Saturday for two dozen children from a girls' camp and many others who were still missing after a wall of water rushed down a river in the Texas Hill Country during a powerful storm that killed at least 24 people. The death toll was certain to rise.

The destructive fast-moving waters along the Guadalupe River rose 8 m in just 45 minutes before dawn on Friday, washing away homes and vehicles. The danger was not over as heavier rains were expected on Saturday.

The total number of missing was not known but one sheriff said about 24 of them were girls who had been attending Camp Mystic, a Christian summer camp along the river.

The flooding in the middle of the night on the Fourth of July holiday caught many by surprise. The Texas Hill Country, which sits northwest of San Antonio, is a popular destination for camping and swimming, especially around the summertime holiday.

# Sport

## Srikanth stuns top seed Chen, enters semifinals

BADMINTON

**Press Trust of India**
CALGARY

India's K. Srikanth continued his impressive run to enter the men's singles semifinals with a straight-game win over top seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei at the Canada Open Super 300 badminton tournament.

The former World Championships silver medallist, who had reached the finals of the Malaysia Masters in May this year, outclassed world No. 6 Chen 21-18, 21-9 in a 43-minute clash on Friday night.

Currently ranked 49th in the world, Srikanth will face Japan's third seed Kenta Nishimoto for a place in the final.

Earlier, S. Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian lost to Nishimoto 15-21, 21-5, 17-21 in a gruelling 79-minute quarterfinal.

In women's singles, Shriyanshi Valishetty went down fighting to Denmark's Amalie Schulz 12-21, 21-19, 21-19.

With his victory, Srikanth remains the lone Indian in contention at the $240,000 tournament.

**The results (quarterfinals):**
**Men's singles:**
K. Srikanth bt Chou Tien Chen (Tpe) 21-18, 21-9.
Kenta Nishimoto (Jpn) bt Sankar Muthusamy Subramanian 21-15, 5-21, 21-17.
**Women's singles:**
Amalie Schulz (Den) bt Shriyanshi Valishetty 12-21, 21-19, 21-19.

## Dyf and Truth may fight out the finish of the Maharaja's Gold Cup

BENGALURU: Dyf and Truth may fight out the finish of the Maharaja's Gold Cup (2,200m), the feature event of the races to be held here on Sunday (July 6).
False rails (width about 5m from 1,600m to the winning post) will be in position.

**1 R.R. BYRAMJI MEMORIAL MILLION** (Div. II), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 2.00 p.m.: 1. Hidden Dreams (4) M. Rajesh K 56, 2. Jersey Garden (8) C. Umesh 56, 3. Midnight Blue (9) A.A. Vikrant 56, 4. Mai Tai (2) Trevor 54.5, 5. My Honey (7) L.A. Rozario 54.5, 6. The Make Sure (3) Antony 54.5, 7. Victoria Bella (1) J. Chinoy 54.5, 8. War Enyo (6) P. Sai Kumar 54.5 and 9. White Secret (5) A. Ramu 54.5.
**1. MAI TAI, 2. THE MAKE SURE, 3. MY HONEY**

**2 COMMANCHE PLATE** (1,200m), rated 00 to 25, 5-y-o & over, 2.30: 1. Tripple V (1) Srinath 62, 2. Flamingo Dream (3) N. Darshan 60.5, 3. N R I Millennium (6) Antony 59.5, 4. Striking Eyes (7) G. Vivek 58.5, 5. Loving Pearl (5) R. Pradeep 57.5, 6. Empress Bella (8) C. Umesh 56.5, 7. Bourbon Bay (2) Koshi K 54, 8. Burning Arrow (4) Angad 54 and 9. Double Scotch (9) Arjun 54.
**1. STRIKING EYES, 2. TRIPPLE V, 3. LOVING PEARL**

**3 R.R. BYRAMJI MEMORIAL MILLION** (Div. I), (1,200m), maiden 3-y-o only, (Terms), 3.00 pm: 1. Lots Of Luck (3) Antony 56, 2. Republican Star (5) Vishal Bunde 56, 3. Divine Secret (9) Sandesh 54.5, 4. Flight Of Fancy (1) G. Vivek 54.5, 5. Gold Bar (7) A. Prakash 54.5, 6. Gusto's Baby (6) Likith Appu 54.5, 7. Romping Home (2) Yash 54.5, 8. Supernal (4) Akshay K 54. and 9. Zephyrine (8) Arvind K 54.5.
**1. FLIGHT OF FANCY, 2. ROMPING HOME, 3. SUPERNAL**

**4 A.M.C. GOWDA MEMORIAL TROPHY** (1,200m), rated 40 to 65, 4-y-o & over, 3.30: 1. Excellent Lass (5) Yash 60, 2. Densetsu (2) Trevor 59, 3. Connecting Dots (6) G. Vivek 58.5, 4. Straordinario (8) Mustakim Alam 57, 5. Corinthian (9) Shreyas S 56.5, 6. Baashha (7) J. Chnoy 55.5, 7. Run For The Sun (4) Antony 55.5, 8. Darrion (10) Sai Kiran 54, 9. Crimson Flame (1) Koshi K 53.5 and 10. Indian Jack (3) Hasib Alam 53.
**1. DENSETSU, 2. EXCELLENT LASS, 3. CONNECTING DOTS**

**5 MAHARAJA'S GOLD CUP** (2,200m), 4-y-o & over, (Terms), 4.00: 1. DYF (8) Trevor 60, 2. Ramiel (7) Sandesh 58.5, 3. Arkadian (3) G. Vivek 57.5, 4. Casteel (5) Suraj 57.5, 5. Mandarino (11) A. Prakash 57.5, 6. Truth (2) Antony 55.5, 7. Shubankar (1) Sai Kiran 53.5, 8. Queen Of Kings (13) A.S. Peter 53, 9. Exuma (14) N.S. Parmar 52.5, 10. Mescalito (6) J. Chinoy 51.5, 11. Nomitsi (12) C. Umesh 51.5, 12. Odysseus (10) P. Sai Kumar 51.5, 13. Positano (4) Akshay K 51.5 and 14. Freedom Touch (9) S. Shareef 50.
**1. DYF, 2. TRUTH, 3. RAMIEL**

**6 LAGARDE PLATE** (1,200m), rated 60 to 85, 4.30: 1. Minecraft (12) P. Sai Kumar 62.5, 2. Never Give In (11) Aleemuddin 62, 3. Pluto (4) Yash 60.5, 4. English Bay (2) Laxman S 57.5, 5. Jersey King (3) C. Umesh 57.5, 6. Knotty Patton (8) Srinath 57.5, 7. Metzinger (1) Pavan 57, 8. Art Collector (10) Trevor 56, 9. Del Aviz (9) Akshay K 55.5, 10. Mazal Tov (6) Antony 55.5, 11. N R I Ace (7) Sandesh 55.5 and 12. Auspicious Queen (5) M. Rajesh K 54.
**1. ART COLLECTOR, 2. PLUTO, 3. NEVER GIVE IN**

**7 SOUTHERN EMPIRE PLATE** (1,400m), rated 20 to 45, 6-y-o & over, 5.00: 1. Fortunatus (6) Arjun 61, 2. Wellington (4) Arvind K 61, 3. The Golden Dream (5) R. Pradeep 59, 4. Spirit Dancer (7) Bhawani S 57.5, 5. War Trail (1) Shivam 57, 6. Peridot (2) L.A. Rozario 55, 7. El Alamein (8) G. Vivek 53 and 8. Turkoman (3) A. Ramu 52.5.
**1. THE GOLDEN DREAM, 2. EL ALAMEIN, 3. WELLINGTON**
Day's best: **FLIGHT OF FANCY**
Double: **MAI TAI - THE GOLDEN DREAM**
Jkt: 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7; Tr (i): 2, 3 and 4; (ii): 5, 6 and 7.

## Fortunate Son claims the Veterinarian's Trophy

BENGALURU: M.K. Jadhav trained Fortunate Son (P.P. Dhebe up) won the Veterinarian's Trophy (1,400m), the main event of the races held here on Saturday (July 5). The winner is owned by Mr. Vijay B. Shirke, Mrs. Vijay B. Shirke, Mr. Jay V. Shirke & M/s. SKJ Thoroughbreds Pvt Ltd rep. by Mr. Prashant Nagar.

**1. GALILEE PLATE (1,800M): THRILL OF BRAZIL** (Jagadeesh) 1, Ksepiman (G. Vivek) 2, Wolf Creek (P. Vikram) 3 and Assurances (Akshay K) 4. Nose, 4-3/4 and 1-1/2. 1m 52.86s. Rs. 17 (w), 12, 16 and 15 (p), SHP: 54, THP: 37, FP: 163, Q: 72, Trinella: 370/108, Exacta: 722.231. Favourite: Thrill Of Brazil.
Owners: Mr. A.K. Jaiswal & Mr. A.P Shajid. Trainer: Md. Shajid Qureshi.

**2. FIRE HAVEN PLATE (1,600M): MIRACLE STAR** (Trevor) 1, Machiavellian (A. Prakash) 2, Star Studded (Suraj) 3 and Tolkien (Antony) 4. 1-3/4, 2-1/4 and 3/4. 1m 39.04s. Rs. 15 (w), 10, 14 and 15 (p), SHP: 39, THP: 33, FP: 58, Q: 43, Trinella: 103/50, Exacta: 201/83. Favourite: Miracle Star.
Owners: Radiant Blood Stock Pvt Ltd rep. by Mrs. Sharmila Padmanabhan and Mr. S. Padmanabhan. Trainer: S. Padmanabhan.

**3. BASQUE PLATE (DIV. II), (1,200M): STRAVINSKY** (Angad) 1, Super Kind (C.A. Brisson) 2, Mega Success (Jagadeesh) 3 and Resplendence (A.A. Vikrant) 4. 1-3/4, 4-1/4 and 3. 1m 13.18s. Rs. 27 (w), 12, 15 and 15 (p), SHP: 48, THP: 34, FP: 218, Q: 227, Trinella: 778/218, Exacta: 2,225/789. Favourite: Stravinsky.
Owner: Mr. Anil K. Joseph. Trainer: Narayana Gowda V.

**4. D.M. KUMARASWAMY MEMORIAL TROPHY (1,600M): THUNDERING PHOENIX** (Antony) 1, Gordon (A.A. Vikrant) 2, Elfin Knight (Sandesh) 3 and Scarlette Lady (Akshay K) 4. Not run: Disruptor. 3-1/4, 3/4 and 4-1/4. 1m 37.00s. Rs. 27 (w), 12, 15 and 11 (p), SHP: 42, THP: 50, FP: 164, Q: 100, Trinella: 172/33, Exacta: 443/309. Favourite: Elfin Knight.
Owners: Mr. Sudendu Shah, Manjri Horse Breeders' Farm Pvt Ltd rep. by Mr & Mrs Shapoor P. Mistry, Mr. Akhtar Adamji Peerbhoy, M/S. Hallmark Racing & Equine Services LLP rep. by Mr. Bharat V. Epur, Dr. Rahul Shah, Mr. K.M. Shah & Mr. Vinod M. Mathurawala. Trainer: Adhiraj S Jodha.

**5. VETERINARIAN'S TROPHY (1,400M): FORTUNATE SON** (P.P. Dhebe) 1, Crosswater (Pavan) 2, Armory (Angad) 3 and True Faith (Vishwa V) 4. 2-3/4, 1-1/4 and 2-1/4. 1m 26.04s. Rs. 20 (w), 13, 13 and 13 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 46, FP: 75, Q: 54, Trinella: 390/112, Exacta: 872/447. Favourite: Fortunate Son.
Owners: Mr. Vijay B. Shirke, Mrs. Vijay B. Shirke, Mr. Jay V. Shirke & M/s. SKJ Thoroughbreds Pvt Ltd rep. by Mr. Prashant Nagar. Trainer: M.K. Jadhav.

**6. SKYLINE PLATE (1,400M): STAR SERENADE** (Darshan) 1, N R I Jetpower (Rayan) 2, Chinky Pinky (Shivam) 3 and Quevega (Ahgad) 4. Not run: Posthaste. 3/4, 2-3/4 and 2. 1m 29.27s. Rs. 26 (w), 13, 12 and 14 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 39, FP: 78, Q: 30, Trinella: 101/43, Exacta: 313/167. Favourite: Star Serenade.
Owners: So Blest Trading Co Pvt Ltd, Mr. Teja Gollapudi, Mr. Daulat Chhabria & Mr. Karan Kashinath. Trainer: Rajesh Narredu.

**7. BASQUE PLATE (DIV. I), (1,200M): FELISA** (Pavan) 1, Eastern Gold (Akshay K) 2, Royal Deccan (Antony) 3 and Master Way (Vinod Shinde) 4. 2-3/4, 3/4 and 3-1/2. 1m 12.80s. Rs. 66 (w), 17, 11 and 20 (p), SHP: 36, THP: 48, FP: 162, Q: 46, Trinella: 356/280, Exacta: 1,794/644. Favourite: Eastern Gold.
Owners: M/s. Arun Alagappan Racing LLP, Mr. Joydeep Datta Gupta & Sarainaga Racing Pvt Ltd. Trainer: Irfan Ghatala.
Jackpot: Rs. 3,824 (135 tkts); Runner-up: 146 (1,516 tkts); Treble (i): 136 (87 tkts); (ii): 293 (58 tkts).

IN FULL FLOW

## Gill overtakes Kohli, becomes India skipper with highest runs in a Test

REUTERS

Shubman Gill overtook Virat Kohli to register the most runs by an Indian captain in a Test during the second match against England in Birmingham on Saturday. Gill crossed Kohli's 293-run record (243 and 50) which the former captain managed against Sri Lanka in 2017. Gill's aggregate at Edgbaston was 430 (269 and 161).

STANDING TALL

## Gill goes past Gavaskar's tally for most runs by an Indian in a Test

GETTY IMAGES

India skipper Shubman Gill (269 and 161) went past Sunil Gavaskar's tally of 344 (124 and 220, vs West Indies, Port of Spain, 1971) for most runs in a Test by an Indian batter. Incidentally, Gill and Gavaskar are the only Indians to score a double century and a hundred in the same Test.

INCREDIBLE

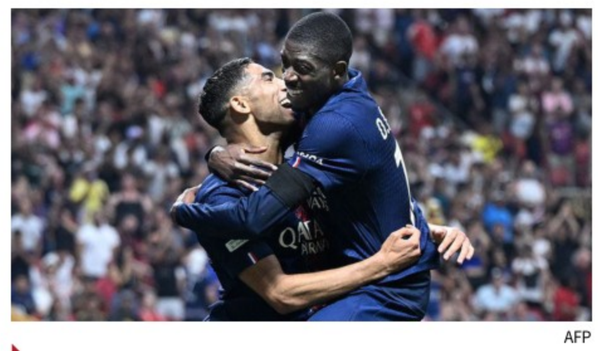
## Gill is the first batter to score 250-plus and 150-plus in same Test

REUTERS

Shubman Gill is the first batter to make 250-plus and 150-plus scores in the same Test. He is also the second batter after Australia's Allan Border (vs Pakistan, Lahore, 1980) to score 150-plus in both innings of a Test. Gill (430) has now scored the second-most runs in a Test after Graham Gooch (456 vs India in 1990).

GRIPPING BATTLE

## Nine-man PSG outlasts Bayern, enters Club World Cup semifinals



AFP

Paris Saint-Germain reached the Club World Cup semifinals as Desire Doue and Ousmane Dembele goals earned the nine-man European champion a 2-0 win over Bayern Munich on Saturday. Willian Pacho and Lucas Hernandez were sent off in the final stages. **The result:** PSG 2 (Doue 78, Dembele 90+6) bt Bayern 0.

# India sniffs victory after Gill sets up daunting target

The captain smashes his second hundred of the match as the tourists deflate the England attack; Rahul, Pant and Jadeja too make merry; Akash and Siraj reduce the hosts to 72 for three

INDIA IN ENGLAND

**N. Sudarshan**
BIRMINGHAM

Saturday in Birmingham was festive. Heavy metal legend and hometown favourite Ozzy Osbourne performed live for one last time, and Black Sabbath, the band he founded with three others 57 years ago, reunited after 20 years.

The who's who of rock music, from Metallica to Lamb of God to Guns N'Roses, lined up to pay their tributes to Osbourne, widely considered the godfather of the genre.

In contrast, what was happening four miles south of Villa Park, seemed low key. There was a cricket match, the 'gentlemen's game' as they call it, and if ever there was a musical analogy to be made, it would only go as far as easy jazz.

But for an hour and 14 minutes, Rishabh Pant, India's best cricketing rock-and-roll artist, turned Edgbaston into an raucous theatre. On day four of the second Test against England, his thrill-a-minute 58-ball 65 (8x4, 3x6), replete with audacious ramps and falling sweeps, kept the capacity audience hooked.

And along with a yet another sublime century from Shubman Gill (161, 162b, 13x4, 8x6), and Ravindra Jadeja's 24th Test fifty (69 n.o., 118b, 5x4, 1x6), he helped India declare at 427 for six and set England a humongous target of 608, a world-record chase if it materialises.

But it might be beyond even Ben Stokes and his band of uber-aggressive men, for Akash Deep (two for 36) and Mohammed Siraj (one for 29) reduced the hosts to 72 for three at stumps, with Ollie Pope (24 batting, 44b, 3x4) and Harry Brook (15 batting, 15b, 2x4) at the crease. The only worry will be the two reviews India burnt.

In the morning, it felt like England had a sniff. Chris Woakes and Brydon Carse bowled probing spells to overnight pair K.L. Rahul (55, 84b, 10x4) and Karun Nair (26, 46b, 5x4), and Carse was rewarded as Karun edged to wicketkeeper Jamie Smith a delivery that straightened after pitching.

Josh Tongue bowled an even better delivery to send back Rahul, with the cherry that was delivered from slightly wide turning the batter inside-out and rearranging the stumps.

At that stage, the visitors were 126 for three, leading by 306 runs. But it would have been a winning total against anyone but this England, and Pant and Gill duly came to the rescue by putting together 110 important runs.

**In sublime form:** Gill notched up his third hundred in four innings in the series. GETTY IMAGES

Pant was dropped two times. As he attempted to bash the ball as hard as he could, twice the bat even flew from his hands. His dismissal by offie Shoaib Bashir was comical as the willow landed somewhere near mid-wicket and the ball safely in deep mid-off Ben Duckett's hands.

In Gill's knock – his third 140-plus score in four innings – the dynamics were softer compared to Pant's, but it didn't lack one bit in virtuosity. Where in the first essay he buckled down and batted India to safety, he brought out his best hits more often this time. There were the flat-bats, the whips, the half-pulls and the half-cuts. The two hooked sixes off Tongue – who conceded 93 runs from his 15 overs – were his stand-out shots.

When Pant departed, India already led by 416, only two less than West Indies' record-fourth innings chase versus Australia in 2003. Gill and Jadeja, with a 175-run association, may have shut England out.

SCOREBOARD

**INDIA — 1ST INNINGS**
587 in 151 overs.
**ENGLAND — 1ST INNINGS**
407 in 89.3 overs.
**INDIA — 2ND INNINGS**
Yashasvi Jaiswal lbw b Tongue 28 *(22b, 6x4)*, K.L. Rahul b Tongue 55 *(84b, 10x4)*, Karun Nair c Smith b Carse 26 *(46b, 5x4)*, Shubman Gill c & b Bashir 161 *(162b, 13x4, 8x6)*, Rishabh Pant c Duckett b Bashir 65 *(58b, 8x4, 3x6)*, Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 69 *(118b, 5x4, 1x6)*, Nitish Kumar c Crawley b Root 1 *(2b)*, Washington Sundar (not out) 12 *(7b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (b-3, lb-4, nb-1, w-2): 10; Total (for six wkts. decl. in 83 overs): 427.
**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-51 (Jaiswal, 7.4 overs), 2-96 (Karun, 20.6), 3-126 (Rahul, 29.1), 4-236 (Pant, 46.2), 5-411 (Gill, 80.5), 6-412 (Nitish, 81.1).
**ENGLAND BOWLING**
Woakes 14-3-61-0, Carse 12-2-56-1, Tongue 15-2-93-2, Stokes 7-1-26-0, Bashir 26-1-119-2, Root 9-1-65-1.
**ENGLAND — 2ND INNINGS (Target: 608)**
Ben Duckett b Akash 25 *(15b, 5x4)*, Zak Crawley c sub (Sai Sudharsan) b Siraj 0 *(7b)*, Ollie Pope (batting) 24 *(44b, 3x4)*, Joe Root b Akash 6 *(16b, 1x4)*, Harry Brook (batting) 15 *(15b, 2x4)*; Extras (lb-1, nb-1): 2; Total (for three wkts. in 16 overs): 72.
**FALL OF WICKETS**
1-11 (Crawley, 1.4), 2-30 (Duckett, 4.3), 3-50 (Root, 10.2).
**INDIA BOWLING**
Akash 8-1-36-2, Siraj 5-1-29-1, Prasidh 3-0-6-0.

**Crucial strike:** Root's stay was ended by an Akash special. AP

## Morkel expects an 'exciting' final day

**N. Sudarshan**
BIRMINGHAM

India bowling coach Morne Morkel expected "an exciting day of cricket" on Sunday as England goes about adding another 536 runs to chase an improbable 608 on the last day of the second Test at Edgbaston.

"Harry Brook likes to take the game on and he's an entertainer," Morkel said. "That's a brand of cricket they want to play. They probably might have a go for a while and then reassess."

The very fact that an England win - however remote - is still being discussed is astonishing. That may have well influenced India's decision to delay declaration until an hour into day four's final session.

"Not really worried, " Morkel clarified. "If a team scores 500-plus on the final day, then they deserve to win. But we saw [Saturday] morning that if we get the ball in the right areas, there is a bit of assistance.

"Your skill really gets tested on a surface like this. The margin for error is smaller. It's going to be about asking questions on a good length because as the ball gets a little softer, it is harder to strike. But, I'm just happy with the three [wickets so far]".

## England women keep series alive

**Press Trust of India**
LONDON

India's batting faltered at the death as England held its nerve to pull off a five-run win in a thrilling third women's T20I, keeping the series alive. Chasing a target of 172, openers Smriti Mandhana (56) and Shafali Verma (47) added 85 before England hit back.

**The scores:** England 171/9 in 20 overs bt India 166/5 in 20 overs (Smriti 56, Shafali 47).
**PoM:** Dunkley.

**All aggro:** Suryavanshi feasted on the England attack. REUTERS

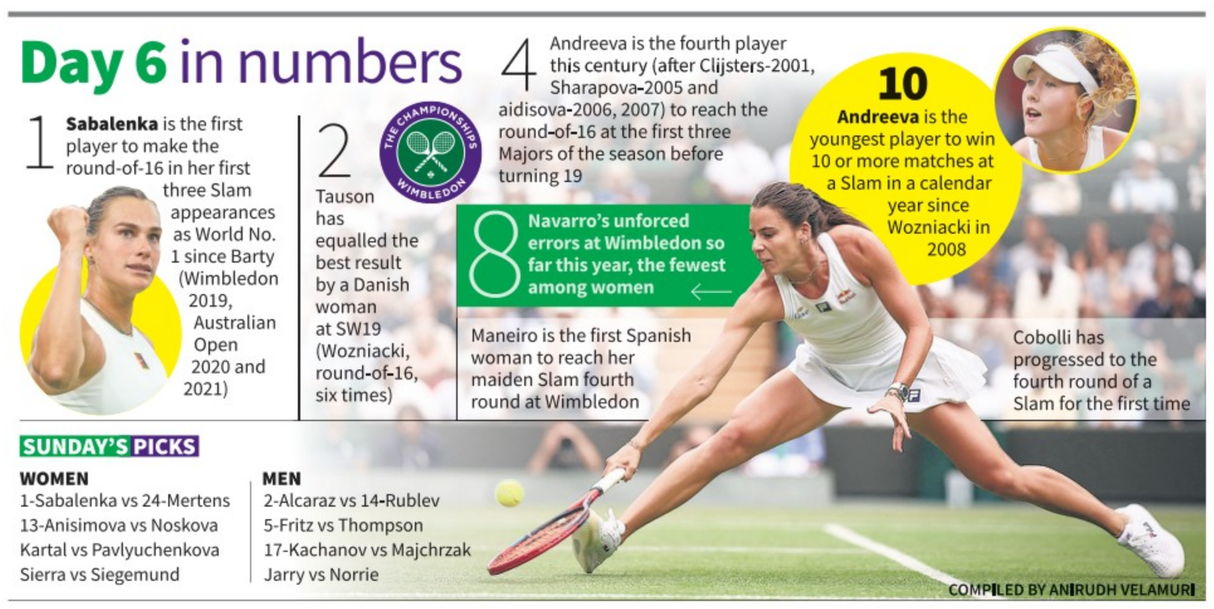
## Suryavanshi smashes fastest ton in u-19 ODIs

**Press Trust of India**
WORCESTER

The 14-year-old Vaibhav Suryavanshi smashed the fastest youth ODI hundred (52 balls) as India took an unassailable 3-1 lead against England with a 55-run win in the fourth game on Saturday. He finished with 143 (78b, 13x4, 10x6).

**The scores:** India 363/9 in 50 overs (Suryavanshi 143, Vihaan Malhotra 123, Home 4/63) bt England 308 in 45.3 overs (Dawkins 67, Moores 52, Rocky Flintoff 107, Pushpak 3/63).

## Day 6 in numbers


1 Sabalenka is the first player to make the round-of-16 in her first three Slam appearances as World No. 1 since Barty (Wimbledon 2019, Australian Open 2020 and 2021)
2 Tauson has equalled the best result by a Danish woman at SW19 (Wozniacki, round-of-16, six times)
4 Andreeva is the fourth player this century (after Clijsters-2001, Sharapova-2005 and aidisova-2006, 2007) to reach the round-of-16 at the first three Majors of the season before turning 19
10 Andreeva is the youngest player to win 10 or more matches at a Slam in a calendar year since Wozniacki in 2008
8 Navarro's unforced errors at Wimbledon so far this year, the fewest among women
Maneiro is the first Spanish woman to reach her maiden Slam fourth round at Wimbledon
Cobolli has progressed to the fourth round of a Slam for the first time
SUNDAY'S PICKS
WOMEN
1-Sabalenka vs 24-Mertens
13-Anisimova vs Noskova
Kartal vs Pavlyuchenkova
Sierra vs Siegemund
MEN
2-Alcaraz vs 14-Rublev
5-Fritz vs Thompson
17-Kachanov vs Majchrzak
Jarry vs Norrie
COMPILED BY ANIRUDH VELAMURI

## Gritty Navarro sends Krejcikova packing

WIMBLEDON

**Agence France-Presse**
LONDON

Imperious top seed Jannik Sinner made short work of Spain's Pedro Martinez on Saturday, winning 6-1, 6-3, 6-1 to reach the last 16 of Wimbledon without dropping a set.

Barbora Krejcikova's reign as Wimbledon champion came to a tearful end as the Czech slumped to a 2-6, 6-3, 6-4 defeat against American 10th seed Emma Navarro while former champion Elena Rybakina suffered a shock exit losing to Denmark's Clara Tauson 7-6(6), 6-3 on Saturday.

Late on Friday, world No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka overcame a fearsome challenge from Emma Raducanu, winning 7-6(6), 6-4.

Seven-time champion Novak Djokovic eased into the round-of-16, with a clinical 6-3, 6-0, 6-4 win against Serbian compatriot Miomir Kecmanovic.

No. 7 Mirra Andreeva, an 18-year-old Russian, moved into the second week with a 6-1, 6-3 victory over American Hailey Baptiste.

Meanwhile, India's N. Sriram Balaji and Rithvik Bollipalli bowed out of the men's doubles event with their respective partners while Yuki Bhambri advanced to the third round with American Robert Galloway following a 6-3, 7-6 (6) win over Nuno Borges (Portugal) and Marcos Giron (USA).

Balaji and Mexico's Miguel Reyes-Varela lost 4-6, 4-6 to fourth-seeds Marcel Granollers and Horacio Zeballos. Bollipalli and his Colombian partner Nicolas Barrientos lost to sixth-seeds Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski 4-6, 6-7(9).

IMPORTANT RESULTS

**Third round: Men:** 22-Cobolli (Ita) bt 15-Mensik (Cze) 6-2, 6-4, 6-2; 1-Sinner (Ita) bt Martinez (Esp) 6-1, 6-3, 6-1; 11-de Minaur (Aus) bt Holmgren (Den) 6-4, 7-6(5), 6-3.
**Women:** 19-Samsonova (Rus) bt 16-Kasatkina (Aus) 6-2, 6-3; 7-Andreeva (Rus) bt Baptiste (USA) 6-1, 6-3; 23-Tauson (Den) bt 11-Rybakina (Kaz) 7-6(6), 6-3.
8-Swiatek (Pol) bt Collins (USA) 6-2, 6-3; 10-Navarro (USA) bt 17-Krejcikova (Cze) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; 1-Sabalenka (Blr) bt Raducanu (GBr) 7-6(6), 6-4.

## SNAPSHOTS

### Verstappen takes pole

Max Verstappen beat Formula One title rivals Oscar Piastri and Lando Norris to claim pole on Saturday for the British GP at Silverstone.

**The grid: Front row:** Verstappen (Red Bull), Piastri (McLaren); **Second:** Norris (McLaren), Russell (Mercedes); **Third:** Hamilton (Ferrari), Leclerc (Ferrari); **Fourth:** Antonelli (Mercedes), Bearman (Haas); **Fifth:** Alonso (Aston Martin), Gasly (Alpine); **Sixth:** Sainz (Williams), Tsunoda (Red Bull); **Seventh:** Hadjar (Racing Bulls), Albon (Williams); **Eighth:** Ocon (Haas), Lawson (Racing Bulls); **Ninth:** Bortoleto (Sauber), Stroll (Aston Martin); **Tenth:** Hulkenberg (Sauber), Colapinto (Alpine).

### Kujur, Afsal break national records

Animesh Kujur broke the men's 100m national record, clocking 10.18s at the Dromia International Sprint & Relays Meeting in Greece on Saturday. Mohammed Afsal Pulikkalakath broke his own national mark in a time of 1:44.96 and became the first Indian to go below 1:45 in men's 800m at Memoriał Czesława Cybulskiego in Poznan (Poland).

### Philipsen clinches Tour de France opener

Jasper Philipsen won the opening stage of the Tour de France on Saturday, but Remco Evenepoel lost valuable time. Philipsen took the yellow jersey in a frantic sprint finish at Lille, while Evenepoel lost around 40 seconds. Tadej Pogacar and Jonas Vingegaard both finished in the lead pack.

Philipsen. AFP

### Second Test on the edge

Australia was 69 for three at lunch on day three of the second Test against West Indies at St. George's on Saturday.
**The scores**: Australia 286 & 69/3 in 27 overs vs West Indies 253 in 73.2 overs (Campbell 40, King 75, Lyon 3/75).

### Tanvir wins it for Bangladesh

COLOMBO: Tanvir Islam's maiden five-wicket haul helped Bangladesh beat Sri Lanka by 16 runs in the second ODI on Saturday.
**The scores:** Bangladesh 248 in 45.5 overs (Emon 67, Hridoy 51, Asitha 4/35, Hasaranga 3/60) bt Sri Lanka 232 in 48.5 overs (Kusal Mendis 56, Liyanage 78, Tanvir 5/39).

## INBRIEF

### India qualifies for AFC Women's Asian Cup Finals

India secured a memorable qualification to the AFC Women's Asian Cup 2026 Finals with a thrilling 2-1 victory over host Thailand in Chiang Mai on Saturday. The win helped India top Group B of the Qualifiers with a perfect record – four wins from four matches.

**The result:** Thailand 1 (Chatchawan Rodthong 47) lost to India 2 (Sangita Basfore 28, 74).

### India bags three medals at Asian youth & jr. weightlifting

Bhavani Reddy and Mansi Chamunda bagged gold and bronze medals in women's 48kg youth and junior categories respectively at the Asian youth and junior weightlifting championships in Astana. Bhavani totalled 159kg (snatch 69kg, clean and jerk 90kg), while Mansi aggregated 166kg (snatch 74kg, clean and jerk 92kg). Dharmajyoti Devgharia took the silver in men's youth (56kg) with a total of 222kg (snatch 96kg, clean and jerk 126kg).

### Nupur storms into final; Abhinash in last-four stage

India's medal tally at the World Boxing Cup here continued to swell with Nupur (80+kg) advancing to the final and Abhinash Jamwal (65kg) entering the semifinals in Astana on Friday. Nupur defeated Türkiye's Seyma Dustaz 5-0 to secure a spot in the final. Earlier, Abhinash impressed in the 65kg category, overcoming Rene Camacho of the USA with a unanimous decision to move into the last four and guarantee himself a medal. Neeraj Phogat (65kg) and Anamika (51kg) saw their campaigns end in the quarterfinals.

### India's tour of Bangladesh postponed to September '26

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) and BCCI on Saturday mutually agreed to defer the white-ball series between Bangladesh and India, which was scheduled in August 2025 to September 2026. The away series was to feature three ODIs and three Twenty20 Internationals to be played from August 17 to 31 in Chittagong and Dhaka. "This decision has been reached following discussions between the two Boards, taking into account the international cricketing commitments and scheduling convenience of both teams," BCCI said in a release. The BCB said the fresh schedule of the series will be announced in "due course." "The BCB looks forward to welcoming India in September 2026. Revised dates and fixtures will be announced in due course," the release said.

### India assured of five medals in Commonwealth billiards

Indians were assured of five medals in various disciplines on the penultimate day of the inaugural Commonwealth Billiards Championships in Balaclava (Mauritius) on Saturday. Leading the charge were Heyball exponents, Shivam Arora (men) and Vidya Pillai (women) who made the semifinals. Keerthana Pandian and Anupama Ramachandran made women's 6-red snooker semifinals. Chitra Magimairaj stormed into the last-four in women's 10-ball pool.

### Riya Bhatia goes down in the doubles final

Riya Bhatia and Sada Nahimana lost 4-6, 6-3, [10-6] to Estelle Cascino and Patricia Tig in the doubles final of the $60,000 ITF women's tennis tournament in Bucharest.

**Other results: $15,000 ITF women, Los Angeles: Quarters:** Krisha Mahendran bt Olivia Bergler (Pol) 6-3, 6-0.

**LIVE TELECAST**

**Zimbabwe vs South Africa:** 2nd Test, day 1, FanCode, 1.30 p.m.

**Wimbledon:** Star Sports 1, SS Select 1, 2 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

**England vs India:** 2nd Test, day 5, Sony Sports Ten 1, 5 (SD & HD) & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.

**TNPL:** Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & FanCode, 7.15 p.m.

**Formula One:** British GP, F1 TV, F1 TV Pro & FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

**West Indies vs Australia:** 2nd Test, day 4, FanCode, 7.30 p.m.

# Fan favourite Neeraj claims the title

Heavy crosswinds pose a real challenge as the Indian measures 86.18m on his third attempt; Yego finishes second with an effort of 84.51m

**ATHLETICS**

**Ashwin Achal**
BENGALURU

The 15,000-odd spectators at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium went home a happy lot as fan favourite Neeraj Chopra claimed the inaugural Neeraj Chopra Classic title here on Saturday.

Neeraj's 86.18m heave on his third attempt was enough to get the job done. The action did not quite reach dizzying heights, with heavy crosswinds posing a real challenge.

The coveted 90m mark was never under threat, and it came down to adjusting to the conditions. Neeraj, two-time Olympic medallist and tournament organiser, was up to the task.

Kenya's Julius Yego provided a fair challenge, finishing second with 84.51m.

**Victory roar:** Neeraj, who got the big crowd to its feet every time he stepped to his mark, soaked in the adulation. K. MURALI KUMAR

**Briefly in lead**

Sri Lanka's Rumesh Pathirage, who entered the field as a replacement for Pakistan's Arshad Nadeem, briefly held the lead with a 84.34m throw.

Neeraj, who got the big crowd to its feet every time he stepped to his mark, soaked in the adulation. After each effort, he exalted and waved to the supporters. There was anticipation that he would reserve his best for final sixth round, but it was not to be.

A 84.07m fell well short of his best, even if the trophy was already in the bag.

The evening began with much fanfare, with the stands filling up early. Neeraj even had the support of his competitors, who applauded in unison when he stepped up.

**Double delight**

To win the tournament and to pull off a tough organisational task proved to be double delight for Neeraj.

"Bengaluru has always been a lovely city. The fans supported us throughout.

> The coveted 90m mark was never under threat
> Neeraj, two-time Olympic medallist and tournament organiser, was up to the task

I'm thankful to all of them," Neeraj said.

With a lot riding on his name, Neeraj felt the pressure. "Since this event is in my name, there was added pressure to do well. I'm quite relieved and happy to win. Of course, my biggest goal was to pull off a successful tournament. I think this was achieved," Neeraj said.

On the field, Neeraj did his best to overcome the winds. "It was tough to throw into the headwind. The javelin was going left. I spoke to my coach and made the right adjustments," Neeraj said.

**Praise from rivals**

Perhaps the biggest win of the night came in the form of praise from Neeraj's foreign rivals, who all promised to return for the next edition.

# Chelsea edges out Palmeiras; Fluminense scrapes past Al Hilal

**CLUB WORLD CUP**

**Agence France-Presse**
PHILADELPHIA

A late own-goal by goalkeeper Weverton took Chelsea through to the Club World Cup semifinals on Friday as the Premier League side edged Palmeiras of Brazil 2-1 in a last-eight tie that had been lit up by a moment of magic from young star Estevao Willian.

The teenage Brazil forward, who will join Chelsea after the tournament, was eager to impress his future employers and his brilliant 53rd-minute finish cancelled out Cole Palmer's opener in Philadelphia.

**Heartbreak:** Palmeiras's goalkeeper Weverton looks on helplessly after conceding an own-goal to hand victory to Chelsea. AFP

But a deflected Malo Gusto cross went in off Palmeiras goalkeeper Weverton in the 83rd minute to give Chelsea the victory.

That set up a semifinal showdown with another Brazilian side in Fluminense, which defeated Saudi Arabia's Al Hilal 2-1 through substitute Hercules's 70th-minute winner.

Enzo Maresca's team will now be fancied to go on and reach the final of FIFA's new, expanded version of the competition, with Fluminense standing in its way in the last four.

**Fine finish**

A fine left-foot finish from Matheus Martinelli had put the Rio club ahead in the 40th minute but Al Hilal's Brazilian forward Marcos Leonardo levelled six minutes into the second half before Hercules stole the show to the delight of the vast majority of the 43,091 crowd.

**The results (quarterfinals):** Fluminense 2 (Martinelli 40, Hercules 70) bt Al-Hilal 1 (Marcos Leonardo 51); Palmeiras 1 (Estevao 53) lost to Chelsea 2 (Palmer 16, Weverton 83-og).

# Two golds for India in Asian para-archery championships

**Sports Bureau**

Indian archers claimed two team gold medals in the Asian para-archery championships in Beijing on Saturday.

Jyoti and Sheetal Devi combined to beat China's Zhao Jing and Zhang Lu 148-143 in the final to win the compound women's open team title.

Harvinder Singh and Bhawna defeated China's Gan Jun and Gao Cihan 5-4 (shoot-off: 14-8) to secure the recurve mixed team open crown.

Indian archers, however, lost in three finals to the Chinese.

Rakesh Kumar-Shyam Sunder Swami duo lost to 156-155 by AI Xinliang and Zhang Yicheng in the compound men's open team event.

> Jyoti and Sheetal won the compound women's open team title
> Harvinder and Bhawna secured the recurve mixed team open crown

Jyoti and Rakesh were beaten 153-150 by Zhao Jing and Xinliang in the compound mixed team open title clash.

Harvinder and Vivek Chikara lost 5-4 (shoot-off: 18-17) to Gan and Zhao Lixue in the recurve men's open team gold medal match.

**Fruitful outing:** India won two gold, two silver, and three bronze at the Asian junior individual championship. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

# Aryaveer and Anahat triumph; India ends up with seven medals

**SQUASH**

**Sports Bureau**

India clinched two gold, two silver, and three bronze medals at the 32nd Asian junior individual squash championship, which concluded at Gimcheon, Korea, on Saturday.

Aryaveer Dewan beat Malaysia's Nickhileswar 11-5, 11-8, 11-3 in the u-17 boys' final and Anahat Singh defeated Cheung Tsz Ching of Hong Kong 11-7, 11-2, 11-8 in the u-19 girls' final.

**Other results (finals): Boys: u-13:** Muhammad Sohail Adnan (Pak) bt Ayaan Dhanuka 11-5, 11-3, 11-13, 11-6. **Girls: u-15:** Jinoreeka Ning (Mas) bt Saanvi Kalanki 11-4, 11-6, 12-10.

**Bronze medallists (semifinals): Boys: u-13:** Amarya Bajaj; **u-15:** Aryaman Singh. **Girls: u-17:** Anika Dubey.

# Yorker specialist Natarajan looking to relaunch himself at the top level

**CRICKET**

**S. Dipak Ragav**
DINDIGUL

T. Natarajan was one of TNPL's first big finds. It was his exploits in the inaugural edition (2016), nailing yorkers, that helped him land his maiden IPL contract in 2017.

Since then, Natarajan has represented the country in all three formats, establishing himself as one of the best bowlers in the death overs in the IPL.

At the same time, the TN pacer has had to deal with his fair share of injuries. Following a successful IPL 2024, when he picked up 19 wickets for Sunrisers Hyderabad, he has had a tough time recovering from a freak shoulder injury.

"I broke a part of my bone near the left collarbone while training during the off-season last year. It is an extremely rare injury,

**Buzzing again:** Natarajan says his love for the game keeps him going despite injuries. G. KARTHIKEYAN

and I was unfortunate," says Natarajan. "It could have been career-ending, but thankfully, I was able to overcome it without surgery. However, it took me nearly seven months to start bowling again properly."

The injury meant he bowled in just one game for Delhi Capitals in the recently concluded IPL, after being cleared only for the second half of the tournament.

The 34-year-old is almost back to full fitness in the ongoing TNPL and has been key to his side IDream Tiruppur Tamizhans' run to the final, taking nine wickets at an economy rate of 6.35.

"I have become mentally accustomed to injuries. Every time I have a good season, I get injured. It is difficult, but I just work on myself, hoping to bounce back quickly. I am able to do this because of the love I have for the game."

This year in the TNPL, the left-arm pacer is enjoying bowling with the new ball, something he doesn't get to do often in the IPL. "You gain experience through matches, and every bowler feels pressure in a T20 game. What the TNPL has allowed me to do is try out new things. It's been working out well so far, and I know I can bowl even better up front, but this is just the start," he explained about his new role.

Looking ahead, Natarajan hopes to play for Tamil Nadu in the upcoming white-ball competitions and take it as it comes. "In whatever cricket is left in me, I want to enjoy and make good memories. I love the TNPL because I get to spend time with all these raw talents from districts and guide them through my experience."